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FROM THE KNICKERBOCKER FOR DECEMBER.

THE PRIVATEER.

By the author of 'The Escape,' 'Jack Marlinspike's Yarn,' etc.

It was one of those beautiful days, which all who navigate the ocean have often experienced within the tropics. The sun had just risen, sparkling with splendor from his watery bed, and was slowly wending through a host of gorgeous clouds, that rolled majestically along the horizon; an invigorating influence pervaded the scene, and a fine breeze, that came sweeping across the sea, promised to preserve the balmy and delicious temperature that the falling dews of the previous night had imparted to the atmosphere.

That particular part of the Carribean Sea to which we would direct the reader's attention, was, on the day described, enlivened by the appearance of a fleet of vessels of war, in hot pursuit of a small clipper brig, which held the advance at about the distance of five miles. This body of ships comprised a part of the British West India squadron, and had been despatched by the admiral of that station at Halifax, in order to render more efficient protection to their possessions and commerce in that quarter, as the depredations of the American privateers were daily becoming more bold and frequent. This squadron had been sailing in close order during the day, but at the time our scene opens, it had been broken, in consequence of the commodore throwing out a signal to make all sail, and endeavor to come up with the chase. Each ship of the fleet, therefore, in accordance with the order, made all sail; the swifter vessels were ranging ahead, while the duller sailers were observed dropping astern, and taking their stations in the rear. The ship of the commander of the squadron, a frigate of the first class, held her place in about the centre of the fleet; three heavy frigates brought up the rear, while the advance was sustained by a body of smaller vessels. A beautiful eighteen-gun brig, that had that morning formed one of the rear line, now led the extreme van.—She had passed every vessel of the squadron successively, and was now gradually dropping them with a speed that held out every prospect of overhauling the chase. The wind was right aft, and each ship had her studding-sails out on either side. Piles of canvass rose above the dark hulls that loomed beneath them, and the surface of the sea seemed one vast expanse of snowy pyramids. Leaving the squadron to make the best of their way, the reader must imagine himself upon the quarter-deck of the little brig, upon whose capture they were all so intently bent.

A single glance at her arrangements, and those who conducted them, would bespeak her a privateer; indeed, were that good looking fellow, who has just laid down the trumpet and taken up the spy-glass, attired in uniform, the brig might be easily mistaken for a national vessel. She differs from one in no other particular. Six beautiful long guns protrude from either side, while a heavier one revolves in a circle, amidships. The decks tell tales of holy stone and sand, and the neatness every where apparent, indicates the reign of discipline. A row of bright boarding-pikes are confined to the main boom by gaskets of white line, while a quantity of cutlasses and battle-axes glitter in the beckets that are fixed purposely for their reception in the intermediate spaces of the battery. Racks of round shot frown from beneath each gun-carriage, and boxes of grape and canister, with an attendant match-tub, are arranged at regular intervals along the deck. Every belaying-pin is bright, and the brass work of the wheel and binnacles show in elegant and rich contrast with the mahogany of which they are constructed. And mark the gay, healthy countenances of the sturdy tars who line the decks—a fine set of fellows, who, to echo their sentiments, would go to the very devil for their officers. Observe that veteran: how respectfully he touched his hat as the commander ascended from the cabin. What an elegant looking man is Captain Buntline—so tall, and yet so graceful—so majestic, and so prepossessing. I like those black whiskers; they set off his complexion to admiration. His countenance, it is true, is somewhat stern, but it is not a repulsive expression; it savors more of dignity; and that jet black eye!—mark how it flashes, as he sends his gaze aloft, to ascertain if all there is right. See!—he is addressing the young man with the glass, who is his first lieutenant, and, at present, officer of the deck. He smiles; did you ever see a man's countenance undergo so complete a change? All that sternness has vanished, and his features are beautifully animated.

'Do we leave them, Mr. Tunnel? Those rearmost ships appear to be hull down.'

'Yes, Sir, they are poor sailers,' answered the lieutenant; 'but there's a brig among 'em that has been overhauling us since sunrise. The fellow goes along like a witch: I've been watching him the last hour, and have seen him pass every vessel in the squadron: another hour, and the varmint will be pitching his cold iron into us.'

'Let him come on!' rejoined the commander, taking the object of this colloquy through the telescope, 'we could match with two of them; but you are correct; the villain is coming down, wing-and-wing, and gaining each moment upon us. He must be hungry for a fight.'

'Yes,' rejoined the other; 'I expect her skipper has been reading the "Life of Nelson," and feels an inclination to immortalize himself. He'll be less eager, however, before we get through with him.'

'I didn't think that there was any thing in his majesty's service that could show the Rover her stern before,' remarked Captain Buntline.

'Our copper wants cleaning,' rejoined the lieutenant, 'and our sails are old, and hold no more wind than so much bobbinet: besides, Sir, I think that fellow is Baltimore built—some slaver they've caught on the coast of Guinea—or perhaps, some unfortunate devil of a privateer: those ten gun channel-gropers don't run the line off the reel at that rate, in such a catspaw as this.'

'Here, Bobstay,' said the commander to an old quarter-master, 'take the glass, and see what you can make of that fellow.' The veteran divested his mouth of a huge chew of tobacco, and hitching up his trowsers, commenced scanning the Englishman, with an eye proverbial for its acuteness and experience.

'That 'are is a mob-towner, Sir, as the lieutenant says, and coming down with a big bone in her mouth, too.'

'Why are you positive about her being a Baltimore built, Bobstay?' asked the commander.

'Because, Sir,' answered the tar, 'there's no end to the sticks them fellows put in their crafts; and besides, if ye'll obsarve, she han't half the beam of a ten-gun tub; her yards are squarer, too, and has no reach to her sails.'

'Your observations are conclusive, Bobstay,' said the commander; 'but can we serve her out, think you?'

The old tar smiled at the question, and replenishing his mouth with a foot or two of pigtail, replied: 'Ay, Sir, two such fellows, and two more in thirty minutes afterwards.'

'Go to your duty,' said the commander, good humoredly; 'you've turned boaster, in your old days.'

At meridian, the English brig was some six or seven miles in advance of the headmost ship of the squadron, and not more than two in the rear of the chase. Although Captain Buntline had determined on fighting her, he still continued under a press of sail, for the purpose of drawing his adversary at such a distance from the main body, as to preclude the possibility of their interference in the engagement. Another hour, however, brought the Englishman within gun-shot; and, determined to secure every advantage of circumstances, he put his helm down, and bringing his battery to bear, fired a broadside into the still retreating Rover.

It was not until that moment, that Buntline could ascertain the force of his antagonist: but a single glance, previous to her filling away, convinced him of her superiority.

'Take in the light sails, and haul up the courses!' said the commander of the privateer; and another moment beheld the gallant brig moving along under her two topsails.

'Beat to quarters, and open the magazine!'

'Ay, ay, Sir,' was the reply; and the loud roll of the drum was heard, summoning every man from the depths and heights of the vessels to their respective stations. In a few moments, the order to cast loose the guns followed, and every man commenced getting the iron machines ready for the work of death, with the alacrity and good humor peculiar to a sailor, and with an expedition and regularity that was the result of much previous experience in like matters. The tompions were taken out—the train and side tackles cut adrift—the pumps rigged, and the decks sanded, 'fore and aft, to prevent them from becoming slippery with blood; cutlasses, pistols, and boarding pikes placed in convenient situations about the decks; the ports were triced up, the hatches closed, with the exception of a small opening, left for the purpose of passing powder from below; the loggerheads were heated, matches burned beside every gun; and, in short, every preparation was made that such cases render expedient.

The Englishman had not yet taken in any of his canvass, and was consequently rapidly nearing the Rover. It was the mutual desire of the commanders, that their vessels should be brought into close action—the Englishman, from a wish to decide the contest before the squadron could be close enough to assist, and thereby rob him of his anticipated glory; and the American, from a knowledge that his escape depended upon his success in disabling the only vessel in the fleet, that was his superior in sailing. At length but a quarter of a mile intervened between the ships, and the Briton commenced handing his light sails—studding sails, royals, and courses were successively taken in, and the pursuer appeared under nearly the same canvass as the chase.

'Starboard!' shouted Buntline to the man at the wheel, as he beheld the bows of his adversary sweep gracefully to port.

'Starboard, Sir,' answered the quarter-master; and the Rover's broadside was brought parallel to that of the Englishman, while at the same time the stars and stripes ascended with a graceful flutter to her main peak. A volume of smoke and flame burst from the bulwarks of the Briton, and his iron crashed fearfully through the spars and rigging of the privateer. Although Captain Buntline's manœuvre prevented his vessel from being raked by his adversary's fire, it could not prevent its entire destruction; and to his sorrow he beheld his main-top-mast, with its attendant spars, go by the board. A deep shade settled upon his brow, at this unexpected calamity, and the blank of doubt and uncertainty grew upon his features. The success of the Englishman's broadside had completely destroyed his plan of operation, and he stood upon the quarter-deck of his crippled ship, in painful reflection as to his future course. This suspense was but momentary; a thought dawned upon his mind—and applying the trumpet to his mouth, he gave the order to the impatient seamen not to fire, but to be ready for making more sail. 'Leave your quarters, men,' said he; 'put your helm up, Bobstay—man the fore-rack and sheets—lay aloft, topmen, and clear the wreck. Stir yourselves, my livelies!—stand by to set both fore-topmast studding sails.'

This sudden and unlooked for change in the state of affairs, surprised but did not disconcert the crew, so great was the confidence they reposed in him; and they sprang forward to execute his orders with an alacrity that was itself, under such circumstances, a proud eulogium upon the bravery and judgment of their commander. The brig was again put before the wind, more canvass was spread along the booms, and the Rover once more resumed the course she had steered during the morning. A wild and exulting huzza came down from the Englishman, as her antagonist filled away and made sail, without firing a gun; but the scornful smile that curled the lips of Buntline, indicated too well the deception of appearances, and imparted a stronger confidence in the breasts of his seamen. His character for bravery was too well established to be doubted by them, and they only stood impatient to hear the next order that should issue from his trumpet.

'The dogs shall have less cause for merriment before nightfall,' muttered Buntline, as another shout came down from the Englishman, who had also filled away, and was now crowding all sail in chase. 'Muster aft here, my men; tumble aft here, every one of you; come down from aloft, and up from below; bo'sen's mate, send the people aft.'

'My lads,' said Buntline, addressing his hundred bold followers, 'it is fit that you should be acquainted with the fact of my being the bearer of a message from the French admiral of the West India station, to the government of the United States, which, my men, is of vital importance to the interest of our country. I do not tell you this, to stimulate you to any greater exertion, but merely as a reciprocal on of that confidence which I am proud to believe [illegible] me to the last—I have tested it. In the present disabled state of the Rover, it will be impossible to escape from yonder squadron, now rapidly overhauling us; but, my lads, I have a plan to propose, the successful execution of which will crown us with glory and success. Listen to it.'

The plan was then revealed; and when Buntline had done speaking, three hearty cheers evinced the readiness with which the crew entered into it.

'Men,' resumed Buntline, 'the signal will be *Liberty*!—and when I give it forth, let every one of you do as I have directed: now, my lads, don't forget the word *Liberty*.'

Groups of men were now seen spiking the cannon 'fore and aft, so as to render them perfectly useless. The muskets were all thrown overboard, and the powder, with the exception of what each man carried about him, totally destroyed; this done the crew armed themselves, and mustering aft awaited the farther orders of their commander.

In the mean time, the Englishman was rapidly advancing, with the intention of carrying the American by boarding. He was not ten yards astern and at every moment gained on the Rover. Buntline stood watching him, as the tiger does his prey, scarcely breathing, in the intensity of his interest and awaiting with a painful suspense the moment when he might put his daring scheme in operation. The whistle of the bo'sen's mate was heard on board of the Englishman, and the cry of 'Away there, boarders, away!' told their opponents how to expect them. Buntline cast a quick and anxious glance upon his own seamen, who stood grasping their cutlasses with an emotion as intense as his own. It was a moment of fearful excitement on board of either vessel, during which nothing was heard but the ripple of the water as they sped along. At length the dark shadow of the Briton's canvass fell upon the deck of the Rover: another minute, and they were yard-arm and yard-arm.

'Sheer to!' whispered Buntline to the man at the wheel—'sheer to!' The bows of the privateer slightly deviated, and her antagonist was within three yards of her. Clank went the grapnels of the Englishman, and both vessels were brought broadside and broadside.

'Board!' shouted the British captain; and two thirds of his crew sprang over the bulwarks, and upon the decks of the Rover, without the slightest opposition. Buntline gave one glance to the dark forms of the foemen that crowded his forecastle; and applying the trumpet to his mouth, thundered forth the word '*Liberty*!' In an instant, the Americans who had gathered abaft the main-mast, leaped upon the hammocks and nettings, and sprang like so many cats upon the deck and in the rigging of the Englishman. Like a torrent they swept away the few who had remained on board of her, and now, ranging themselves along the bulwarks, they prepared to repel the enemy as they attempted to regain their own ship.

'Cast off the grapnels!' shouted Buntline; and the loud order awoke the Britons from the stupor of amazement in which they were thrown by the sudden and singular movement of their opponents.—They mounted the bulwarks, and endeavoured to regain their own vessel; but they were every where met by opposing cutlasses. In vain they pressed—in vain they thronged; they were every where driven back upon the Rover's decks, or pushed into the sea. They rushed frantically forward, but their hopes were useless: they might as well have attempted to force a wall of iron, as to beat back that rank of heroes. Some of their opponents had seized a huge spar, and were pushing the two vessels apart. They separated—they were yards asunder—and the unscathed English brig, with her Yankee crew, forged ahead, leaving the shattered, harmless hulk of the Rover in possession of a hundred distracted Britons!

Three of the wildest huzzas that ever yet rang upon a startled ocean, burst from the lips of the victorious Americans, as the star-spangled banner unfolded itself from the peak of their prize; then pile after pile of canvass rose upon her tapering spars; and when the sun that night sought its ocean bed, a wide waste of blue water rolled between the stately prize of the Americans, and the shattered wreck of their once gallant privateer.

Louis Philippe has adopted a line of conduct toward the young Bonaparte (Louis Napoleon,) that is both generous and wise. He is pardoned and liberated, on condition of proceeding to the United States, and giving his word and honor to remain there ten years, and make no farther attempt against the peace of France. He passed through Paris on the 11th of November, on his way to the sea-board, where a vessel-of-war would receive and convey him to the United States. His fellow-conspirators were to be tried, but it was thought they would not be punished with death. The Duchess of St. Leu, mother of the rash young man, was allowed an interview with the king, and the lenity of his treatment is ascribed partly to her intercessions. She will follow her son to America, it is said, in the spring.

THE OLD MAID'S PETITION.

Pity the sorrows of a poor old maid,
Whose years, alas! have numbered forty-four!
But owns to twenty-five; and feels afraid
That all her chance is gone—for ever Moore.

This youthful garb my eagerness bespeaks,
This morning cap proclaims my lengthened years,
And many a wrinkle in my grief-worn cheeks,
Has oft been wet with disappointment's tears.

Yon ball, for which a sovereign I paid,
So tempting, balked my wishes at the last,
Though Weippert there the music had purveyed,
And Gunter a magnificent repast.

Hard is the fate of maids no longer young!
Deaf to my hints were all the dancing men:
And envying in my heart the blooming throng,
I waltzed with partners of threescore-and-ten!

Oh! let me but avoid the wretched doom,
Which menaces old maids, as gossips tell,
When they have passed the precincts of the tomb
To lead the apes they loved on earth, in hell!

Should I reveal the sources of my grief,
If soft humanity e'er touched their breast,
Sore bachelors could not withhold relief!
And pitying offers would not be represt!

Heaven sends us offers! why should we refuse?
'Tis that has brought me to the state you see;
And should they hesitate too long to choose,
Young ladies soon will grow old maids like me!

A little beauty once I had to boast,
Then sprightly as a sylph I hailed the ball;
But, ah! too soon I ceased to reign a toast,
And rival belles delighted in my fall!

My sister, once the comfort of my youth,
Lured by an offer from her native halls:
Now lives confiding in a husband's truth,
While in her nurs'ry many an infant squalls!

My lover once! sweet soother of my cares!
Struck by consumption, at death's stern decree,
A victim fell to brandy and cigars,
And left the world to wretchedness and me!

Pity the sorrows of a poor old maid,
Whose years, alas! has numbered forty-four,
But owns to twenty-five; and feels afraid
That all her chance is gone; for ever Moore!

(Signed) Mary Moore.

ARMAND DE LIGNY.

A TALE OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

It was early in the year 15—, when the trees began to be clothed with verdure, and the smiling aspect of nature gave indications of the return of summer, that the Turkish army, headed by the Sultan Solyman the Magnificent, sat down before the walls of the city of Vienna, with the determination of planting the standard of the Prophet above the cross that waved proudly from the walls. Never had the cause of Mahomet claimed a more able supporter than in the person of the present leader of the Turks. Brave without rashness—cool and crafty, he rendered himself a truly formidable foe to the Christian powers of Europe.

To the warlike qualities of his predecessors, he united cruelty, and dissimulation. Possessed of such a disposition, and confiding in his vast resources, he eagerly availed himself of the dissensions among the Christians, occasioned by the wars between the Emperor Charles V. and the King of France, to march a large body of troops upon the frontiers of Hungary, and taking advantage of the absence of Charles, attempted the siege of the imperial city itself.

Great, as was the character of Solyman, he was opposed by one, as a warrior, every way his equal; and who was greatly his superior in every thing relating to the science of [illegible] a general sensation of alarm, and the city was in consequence stored with a numerous force; and the emperor was advancing at the head of a powerful army, with the intention of raising the siege. Confident of their ability to withstand the Turks, and daily expecting the arrival of the emperor, the siege produced no cessation to the usual employments and pleasures of the troops.

It was the third day after the commencement of the siege, when the sun had declined behind the western hills, that two persons closely muffled in cloaks, issued from the gate of the imperial palace, and took their course toward the western part of the city.

One had the appearance of a man not much past the middle age of life; and although his countenance exhibited the marks of intense care, and even sorrow, his active steps showed that his strength was still undiminished. His countenance was distinguished by an air of severity which greatly diminished the attractions of features otherwise noble and commanding.

His companion was apparently not more than twenty years of age. His person was tall and commanding, and his countenance manly and expressive. Their bearing was that of noblemen of the first rank. They avoided the more crowded parts of the city, as if anxious to escape observation. The elder of the travellers, at length broke silence.

'My lord,' said he, addressing his companion, 'the coldness of our reception by the archduke, augurs ill for our safety. Saw you not the malicious smile with which he regarded us while conversing with the bishop of Strasburg? It were, I think our best policy to leave the city.'

'Nay, Marquis,' said the younger traveller, 'such a course would be certain to awaken the suspicions of the emperor, and besides, it were shame to leave the city while thus beleaguered by the infidel.'

'Little reason have I for fighting in its defence; methinks De Ligny you forget the scorn with which you have been treated.'

'You wrong me, Marquis, by the supposition, the memory of my father's wrongs and mine, still live in my breast; but I would not therefore desert my country.'

The conversation was here interrupted by the approach of a person who by the richness of his dress, appeared to be evidently above the command rank. He was somewhat past the middle age of life; the expression of his countenance was open and frank; and his exterior was altogether that of one highly favored by fortune, and who was much too thoughtless to trouble himself with the cares of life.—His address partook of the same character with his appearance.

'Ha! my Lord Marquis, and my young friend De Ligny, have you abandoned the festivities of the palace at this early hour?—The ladies must have been cruel; but I forget that the marquis of Thuringia is no bon vivant, and that the Count De Ligny is his pupil. He will induct you,' said he, addressing the count, 'into all the mysteries of state policy, and if you keep not a sharp look out, he will intrigue your head from off your shoulders, as he has done for many an honest man beside.'

'Pshaw baron,' replied De Ligny; 'you are well known for a privileged jester.'

'Jest you say—a headless trunk, is not such a jesting matter as you may imagine; it is a commodity in some request in our time.'

'Wast ever serious in thy life, Baron?'

'Serious! you should have witnessed my grief at the death of mine uncle, particularly when upon opening his will, it was discovered that he had made me his heir; you would have thought the old man had been my father.—But seriously, why have you left the palace at this early hour?'

'The nature of our reception there,' said the marquis, 'was such as to admonish us that if we regarded our own safety, we should decamp as speedily as possible.'

'But what intrigue have you afoot now, that you are thus suspicious? I had thought that your change of principles had restored you to the favor of the emperor. I trust you are not about to veer again.'

The marquis hesitated, and seemed confused, but he at length replied—'It is not unknown to you, that the emperor was the bitter enemy of the late Count De Ligny, the cause of that enmity is known to me; my appearance at court with his son therefore, readily accounts for the coldness of our reception.'

'Thou speakest truth,' replied the baron. 'Charles is a prince little likely to regard with favor those whom he judges to have an undue familiarity with his private policy. The intriguing Jesuit, his confessor, did more than hint to me, that your conversion was nothing more than a political feint. But Charles will not be so impolitic as to proceed against you upon such slight grounds, my advice is therefore, that you should remain in the city, at least until the Mussulman shall have retired.'

A close observer would have discovered in the glance which the marquis cast upon the baron at the conclusion of his speech, an expression of fear and astonishment.—Mastering his feelings, whatever they were, he replied with assumed indifference.

'That the Jesuit should respect me is a matter of course, since I have not courted the reverend father with the humility which he appears determined to exact from all who approach the court. Are you for the assembly?—or will you accompany me to my residence? And since you complain that I am no bon vivant, De Ligny shall help us to empty a flagon.'

'Ha! I had intended to see the sports; but your lordship's housekeeping is really none of the worst, and upon mature consideration, the banquet will be postponed until a very late hour, so I care not if I return with you.'

The three then proceeded onward until they arrived at a more open part of the city, which appeared from the numerous plantations of trees, together with the stately avenues and splendid edifices, to be appropriated to the residence of nobility.

Ascending a gentle eminence, the marquis led the way toward a mansion of great extent, which stood nearly embosomed in the foliage of several aged chesnuts. Built in a very remote age, by the warlike ancestors of the marquis, it was adorned with numerous towers and turrets, the remains of Gothic architecture. A gentle flight of steps led from the avenue to the main entrance of the building. Pausing for a moment, the marquis directed the attention of his companions to the long line of the Turkish camp, which, by the glimmering of the twilight had the appearance of a cloud stretched along the horizon.

'Ay, ay,' exclaimed the baron, 'there lies the Turk in all his pride; the bearded rogues are carousing no doubt, in the hope of being able soon to plant the crescent upon the walls of our city. The unbelieving dogs have excellent cheer, that must be allowed them; and despite the injunctions of their prophet, they manufacture wines that put our Rhenish to the blush.'

'Thou wouldst turn Turk I fancy baron, for a drink of that same wine you mention; but I marvel that with his reputation for activity, Solyman should be thus sluggish in his approach.'

'He has doubtless a foretaste of the entertainment provided for him,' cried the baron, 'our Charles is no laggard in matters affecting his own interest.'

The marquis now touched a spring concealed within the door, and entered the mansion. Several domestics appeared at his summons.

'Mexis,' said he, addressing a servant distinguished from his companions by a chain of gold which he wore around his neck, 'you will serve refreshments in the library; I shall not forth again to night. Has the lady Wilhelmina retired to her chamber?'

'She went out in company with the Countess Elfenstein soon after your excellency departed for the court.'

The marquis then proceeded through several richly furnished suits of apartments, and at length ushered his companions into a room furnished in the most antique style.—A large part of the wall was occupied by a range of shelves containing what in those days, was esteemed a large collection of books; and the opposite side, by numerous half length portraits, the frowning representatives of the marquis's ancestry. A large oaken cabinet with silver clasps stood in the recess of the vast Gothic window which commanded an extensive prospect of the adjacent country.—The floor was of marble, the sable hue of which gave to the apartment an air of some magnificence. The gloomy aspect of the room was however partly dissipated by the appearance of a fire, which blazed cheerily on the ample hearth.

One of the domestics placed three seats around the fire, and a small table by their side. A page entered, bearing a huge flask and several goblets of silver, which he deposited on the table.

'You may retire, Ernest,' said the marquis, 'but be within call. And now my friends, let us try the Cyprus, which I believe will soon banish the vintage of the Turk from the memory of the baron. It were a worthy deed to gain possession of that isle, were it but to gratify our palates.'

'It is of an ancient vintage, and hath a most rare covering,' said the baron pointing to the cobwebs which enveloped the flask. 'But this unhappy business of yours, have you advice of [illegible] landgrave of Hesse informed me that he had heard me accused of corresponding with the Elector of Saxony and other leaders of the reformation.'

'Say you so! Then father Francis had some grounds for his conjecture concerning the unsoundness of your faith.—But I blame you not if you have; the priests have carried matters with a high hand.'

'You are then a friend to Luther, Baron?'

'Yes, so far as his labors have a tendency to expose the excesses of the clergy.'

'If he will but leave to the laity the privilege of carousing, hey?'

'Why truly I should not thank him for interfering with our pleasures.'

'You will then join with us,' said the count who had hitherto remained silent.

'Not so fast, I claim the privilege of grumbling at the church over my glass, but these intrigues and plots like me not, and my head stands much more firmly upon mine own broad shoulders than I fear it would upon the city gate.—You may however depend upon my secrecy.'

'That is sufficient, the marquis will acquaint you with our plans.'

Leaving them to the discussion of their dangerous projects; we will endeavor to give the reader some insight into the characters of the persons thus introduced to his acquaintance.

Armand Count De Ligny was descended from one of the most illustrious families of Germany, his father was nearly allied to the house of Brunswick, and had married a half sister of the celebrated Maurice; Marquis of Misnia and Thuringia. Certain circumstances of a peculiar character which transpired during the youthful days of Adelbert De Ligny, had rendered him obnoxious to the hatred of the emperor. Upon this account, he seldom visited Vienna, residing at his paternal castle, and occupying himself with superintending the education of his only son, the hero of our tale.

Armand was deserving of the care which his parents lavished upon him. Possessed of a thirst for knowledge, and an unusually quick apprehension, he soon rendered himself a proficient in the literature of the age. The hostility of the emperor prevented the neighboring nobility from wishing to cultivate an intimacy with the count, and Armand was consequently but little acquainted with the manners and customs of the world.

There were several persons who were however frequent visitors to the castle Ligny. One of these, the baron of Nieustatt was a nobleman of high rank, who was remarkable for little else save good nature, and a slight tendency to Epicurianism which tinged his personal appearance and conversation.

The marquis of Thuringia was also an occasional visitor, and as his acquaintance was to exert considerable influence upon the life and fortunes of his nephew, the reader will pardon us should our description of his character appear somewhat minute. It is perhaps difficult to speak of the character of this extraordinary man without offence—his support of the Reformation, having led many to view him as the champion of the reformed faith, and to lavish upon him all possible praise; while the duplicity and dissimulation with which he accomplished his designs, has led others to affirm with equal confidence, that he was a hypocrite, who made use of religion only as the means of promoting his own aggrandisement. There is probably some degree of truth in both representations, as it is evident that although he might have been a sincere friend to the Reformation, yet that ambition was his ruling principle. Be this as it may, it is certain that no prince ever possessed to a greater degree, the qualities requisite to the character of a great statesman.

He had entered deeply into the schemes of Luther, and was actively engaged in disseminating his principles. He had observed the genius and promising abilities of his nephew, and was anxious to attach him to his own party.—By his insinuating manners and conversation, he soon rendered himself a favorite with young De Ligny.

Before Armand had attained his twentieth year, he had the misfortune to lose his mother. His father was inconsolable for the loss of his amiable countess, and as his grief preyed heavily upon his health, the marquis with the view of diverting his thoughts from the cause of his sorrow, prevailed on him to undertake a journey with his son, to his principality of Thuringia.

A ride of two days brought them to the castle of the marquis. To Armand, the journey had been full of interest, and even the count seemed aroused from the stupor of his grief. The marquis had lost his marchioness in early life, leaving to his care, a daughter, the sole pledge of their affections. Wilhelmina was nearly eighteen years of age.—She possessed the noble and majestic outline of features which characterised the marquis, divested of the air of severity and haughtiness which habitually distinguished the countenance of the latter.

Her hair which was dark and glossy as the raven's wing, was suffered to fall, confined by a golden clasp, negligently around the neck. Her eyes, which were dark and piercing, together with an air of melancholy which tinged her countenance, rendered her an interesting, not to say a beautiful girl.

Armand who had never until now, beheld his lovely cousin, was, as may well be imagined, greatly struck with her appearance. Wilhelmina who had been brought up in seclusion, and with a disposition naturally romantic, beheld in Armand, the hero of her romantic dreams. The numerous avocations of the marquis, together with the increasing melancholy and abstraction of the count, necessarily threw them much into each other's society, and the similarity of their tastes and pursuits, cemented their growing attachment.

The intrigues of the marquis having at length awakened the suspicions of the emperor, it became necessary for him to retire into the dominions of the Elector of Saxony; and as the health of Adelbert De Ligny was evidently undergoing a rapid decline, it became necessary for the lovers to separate. Wilhelmina accompanied the marquis to Dresden, the capital of the Electorate, while Armand slowly returned with his father to the castle Ligny. Upon their arrival, the malady of the count increased to such a degree that it became obvious to all around him, that he could survive but a short time.

Requesting his attendants to withdraw from his apartment, the dying nobleman motioned to his son to seat himself by his side.

'Sensible,' said he, 'that I am drawing toward the close of my life, I feel it necessary to impart to you a secret which has never before passed my lips. You are not ignorant of the enmity which the emperor has ever exhibited towards me, but you have never been made acquainted with the circumstance to which it gave rise.'

'You have ever refused to satisfy my curiosity on that point.'

'I have my son, delayed to give you that information because I have had reason to believe it would have embittered your youthful days. I was the rival of the duke of B. a near relative of the emperor, in the affections of your mother, then the lady Theresa of Misnia. It was soon after I had ventured to declare my passion, and had received from her lips the assurance that I was not indifferent to her, that her beauty caught the attention of the young Duke. Finding her deaf to his dishonorable solicitations, he conceived the plan of carrying her by force, to a lonely and impregnable castle which he possesses in the wilds of Hungary.

One day as Theresa and I were walking in the forest adjoining the castle, we were alarmed by the appearance of four men, who started from a thick clump of trees some little distance in our front. All doubt as to their intentions was dissipated by their drawing their swords and commanding us to yield. Two of them seized upon Theresa, and attempted to bear her from the spot. Maddened by the sight, I drew my sword, and rushed to her assistance. Two of the ruffians then attacked me, and I was compelled to place my back against a tree, intending to sell my life as dearly as possible. After receiving several severe wounds, I had the pleasure of seeing one of the villains fall. The others however pressed close upon me, and at length receiving a severe blow on my head, I fell senseless to the earth. When I recovered my senses, I was surprised to find myself lying upon a bed, and Theresa and the marquis standing by my side. Had it not been for the bandages which I felt upon my head and breast, I could have believed the whole of the late scene to be nothing more than a painful dream. Theresa and her brother expressed the greatest joy on my returning consciousness, and I immediately requested her to inform me how she had escaped from the hands of the ruffians. It appears that on the fall of the villain I had wounded, the two who had seized Theresa, left her and advanced to the assistance of their comrade. Finding herself at liberty, she fled toward the castle, the ruffians being too much engaged to notice her flight. Ere she had reached the castle, she met the marquis with several of the servants who having become alarmed at our long absence, had sallied forth in search of us. Receiving from her an account of my dangerous situation, hurried forward, and had arrived in sight as I [illegible] they conveyed to the castle, where he confessed that he had been hired by the Duke of B** to spirit Theresa away.

I recovered from my wounds in a short time, and Theresa and I were immediately united. The ruffian also recovered, and we spared his life. From him the duke doubtless received an account of the whole transaction.—The marquis and myself applied to the emperor for vengeance upon the duke. He rejected our petition with scorn, and forbade me his presence. The duke had probably possessed him with a false account.

The hatred of the duke has pursued me through life.—A short time after my marriage, as I was one morning seated in my study, my valet informed me that a person habited like a monk, wished to see me on business of importance. I caused him to be admitted without the least suspicion. A person of gigantic stature entered the apartment; whose face was concealed beneath a cowl. He stood silent for a moment, as if listening to the retreating footsteps of the servant.

'I believe, sir,' said I, 'that I have not the honor of your acquaintance.'

'And yet we have met before,' said he, with a sneer.

I started at the sound of his voice, and lifting his cowl, he disclosed to my view the horrid countenance of Jasper, the ruffian whose life I had spared at the castle of Thuringia.

Before I could draw my sword or ring for assistance, he seized me by the throat and compressed with the strength of a vice. His object was evidently to strangle me. In our struggle we both fell upon the floor, and he had nearly accomplished his object, when the sound of footsteps in the corridor obliged him to retreat. A servant entering, found me lying on the floor, and instantly alarmed the house. By the application of proper remedies I was soon restored to recollection, and immediately despatched several of the servants in quest of Jasper, but they returned without success. Whether the duke was the instigator of this outrage, I never knew, but I can hardly believe him capable of such baseness, and am inclined to think that it originated in the malice of the ruffian himself.

I know the disposition of the duke too well not to foresee that you will be constantly exposed to his machinations; and I tremble for your safety when I consider his power with the emperor. Trust to your uncle, and—here the voice of the count became inaudible, and he sunk back on his pillow exhausted with the length of his narration. Armand endeavored to make him swallow the cordial which stood at his side, but in vain, for he had ceased to breathe.

Armand was powerfully affected by the relation of the count, and a thirst for vengeance for a moment filled his breast. After the obsequies of his father had been performed, he determined to proceed to Saxony and join the marquis. While young De Ligny had been detained at the castle by the sickness of his father, the marquis was actively engaged in promoting the reformation. But while in the height of his popularity, he astonished all Europe by avowing himself a Catholic, and a friend of the emperor.—His desertion was a terrible blow to the Protestants, whose cause now began to appear desperate. The young count was greatly surprised at the reception of this intelligence, which reached him just as he was preparing to set off for Saxony. He was but little acquainted with the principles of the Reformers, and though he had decided upon joining them, his determination was the result of his indignation toward the emperor, rather than a conviction of the justice of their cause. He now confined himself closely to the castle.

The marquis meanwhile pursued his schemes, and by his mysterious policy nearly effected the ruin of the Protestant cause. He had heard of the death of his brother-in-law, but the multitude of his intrigues, together with the danger to which any communication with his nephew would then have exposed him, prevented him from manifesting that interest in Armand's concerns which he otherwise would have done. But on his reconciliation to the emperor, he determined to visit him, and persuade him to accompany him to Vienna. Armand was soon convinced by the conversation and appearance of his uncle, that his change of principle was nothing more than a master stroke of policy, calculated to lull the Catholics into a state of fancied security, while he was in reality undermining the foundation of their power. He spoke of the emperor with his usual asperity, and expressed his determination of exposing his conduct with regard to the duke of B— and the late count. He at length disclosed his design, which was to gain the confidence of the emperor by an appearance of zeal in his cause, and by this manœuvre to establish the Reformation. Armand readily complied with the proposals of the marquis to accompany him to the capital. The rumors of the approach of the Turks, excited in his breast a thirst for military glory, and filled with the hope of rejoicing Wilhelmina, it was with the most buoyant spirits that he prepared for the journey.

They arrived at Vienna the day before the commencement of the siege. The emotions of the lovers at meeting, did not escape the observation of the marquis who was sincerely pleased at the idea of a union between his daughter and nephew. The seclusion in which Armand had hitherto lived, had prevented him from forming an extensive acquaintance with his compeers, and he was consequently a stranger in the polite circles of the city.

The night on which he is introduced to the reader, was his first presentation at court. The marquis easily discerned in the haughty deportment of the Archduke Philip, and the suspicious glances which were cast upon himself and companion, that something had occurred to place his person in jeopardy; and a conversation with several of the nobility convinced him that his designs had been penetrated to an extent which rendered his further stay in the capital highly dangerous. The duke of B——, who was present, scowled upon the count, who could hardly restrain his indignation at his presence. It was evident from the manner of the duke that the apprehensions of the late count concerning the dangers to which his son would be exposed through the malice of this man, were but too well founded. More conversant than his nephew with the customs of courts, the marquis easily foresaw the storm which was preparing to burst around them, and that their only safety lay in a speedy flight. Armand who did not participate in the fears of his uncle, combatted this resolution with the ardour of an ingenuous mind. But the subsequent conversation of the marquis with the Baron of Nieustatt whom the reader has already discovered to be the nobleman whom they encountered in their return from the palace, convinced him of the necessity of the measure. The conference which they held at the residence of the marquis, issued in a determination to leave the city if practicable, before the arrival of the emperor. The death of the elector of Saxony, had considerable influence upon the motions of the marquis. He had long had an eye to the succession of that principality, which would place him at the head of the Protestant league.

On the morning of the fourth day of the siege the sun arose upon the city of Vienna with unclouded splendour and the streets were soon thronged with the inhabitants.—The avenues leading to the imperial palace were blocked up with the carriages of the nobility, who were hastening to the levee of the Archduke Philip, who governed the city during the absence of the emperor. The imperial guards were under arms, and drawn up in front of the palace.—From the anxious looks of the officers who were hurrying to and fro, something unusual appeared to have taken place. The members of the council were seated in a chamber in the interior of the palace, in anxious consultation. The archduke was seated on a throne slightly elevated from the floor. At the foot of the throne was a large table beside which were several secretaries. From an air of gloom which dwelt upon the countenances of the members it might be gathered that the business before them, was of a disagreeable nature; and from the impatient glances which were cast toward the door, they appeared to await the presence of some one, before proceeding to business.

'His grace is somewhat tardy,' said the prince to a nobleman who sat near the throne.

'His zeal in this business is the cause, may it please your highness, he spoke of certain proofs which he was this morning to collect.'

'He were best make his charge good,' said the baron of Nieustatt who sat at the head of the council-board, 'Maurice of Thuringia is not a person to be trifled with.'

'Let not your loyalty fear for that,' said the archduke ironically, 'his grace is little more of a trifler than your friend the marquis.'

As he spoke, the door was thrown open, and a person apparently of high rank entered the apartment. His person was tall and well proportioned, and his air bold and haughty. His years could not be more than forty, and his features were finely formed, although his furrowed countenance and the frown which dwelt habitually on his brow, gave evidence of the stormy passions within. He bowed silently around the principal secretary.

'These papers were the cause of my delay; it is the correspondence of the marquis with the elector.'

'His grace of B—— takes a singular interest in every thing relating to the marquis of Thuringia,' said the baron, 'may we venture to inquire how this packet was obtained.'

The duke cast a scornful glance upon the baron as he said, 'It was obtained honourably, let that satisfy his lordship.'

'That the packet was honourably obtained, could not well be doubted, considering the high character of him who secured it,' observed the baron contemptuously.

The eyes of the duke flashed fire.

'Such a speech may well come from the mouth of a person who speaks of honour, while he is the confidant of traitors.'

'Quite as well,' rejoined the baron composedly, 'as from the mouth of a nobleman who to feed an ancient grudge, is contented to play the part of an eave-dropper.'

'Peace lords,' said the archduke sternly, 'and remember in whose presence you stand, and for what purpose we are assembled here. My lord of Anspach read the charge.'

The principal secretary arose, and proceeded to read the charge, which set forth, that Maurice, Marquis of Thuringia and Misnia, in violation of the peace of the empire, had entered into a league with the elector of Saxony and others, for the purpose of establishing a pestilent heresy of that arch-apostate, and heretic Martin Luther; and for the purpose of levying war against his imperial majesty, and that Armand Count De Ligny is an accessary to the same, in consequence whereof they have exposed themselves to the pains and penalties of high treason. As the decision of the council will be made apparent in the course of our narrative, we must now return to the marquis and his companion. Couriers had arrived, who brought word that the emperor would arrive within three days. The Turks who had received notice of his approach, began to manifest an intention of raising the siege. They therefore determined to leave the city immediately, and as the journey was likely to be one of danger, it was decided that Wilhelmina should remain in the capital. The travellers deemed it prudent not to attempt leaving the city until evening, and to depart separately. The marquis and his retinue departed at sunset, and took their course toward the gate which opened to the Turkish camp. The rank of the marquis procured from the guard a ready passage. They proceeded cautiously along the walk, to the southern side of the city to avoid the Turks who patrolled on the western side. He had indicated to the count, as the place of meeting, a wood several miles distant from the city. After waiting at this place nearly an hour, he began to fear that the count had been seized by the myrmidons of the council. As he cautioned his servants to keep a strict watch, the distant sound of a horse's feet, struck his ear. A person was soon seen advancing, mounted on a horse which he urged to his full speed.

'Stand,' said the marquis.

'Fly my lord,' exclaimed the almost breathless horseman, whom the marquis instantly recognized to be a servant of the count. 'My master has been taken.'

'How, and by whom?'

'By a detachment of the imperial guards. We had reached the gate, and while the sentinel was undoing the portal, they came upon us. The count spurred his horse, and attempted to pass, but he was immediately surrounded, and the officer drawing forth a warrant commanded him to yield in the emperor's name. Never! exclaimed the count drawing his sword. But he was instantly prostrated by a blow from one of the guards. In the confusion that ensued, I passed the sentinel and made the best of my way to the forest.'

The narration of the servant filled the bosom of the marquis with inexpressible anguish. He foresaw that the enemies of his nephew would leave no measures untried to accomplish his destruction, and he remained for sometime undecided, as to what course he should pursue. To return to the city would only ensure his own destruction, without benefiting the count, and he at length determined to proceed to Saxony, and assembling the forces of the league, march against the emperor. When at the distance of several miles from the wood where they had halted, they came suddenly upon a small body of Turks. Although inferior in number they came boldly forward to the charge. After a desperate engagement, they fled, leaving several of their party dead and wounded. The marquis had been particularly struck with the gigantic stature of the leader of the party, whom he had personally engaged and dismounted.—He lay motionless on the ground, although his frequent groans showed that he still survived. Impelled by a curiosity for which he could not account the marquis commanded him to be raised from the ground. As the light of a torch which one of the servants produced streamed upon his face he shuddered at the resemblance which the features bore to those of Jasper, the emissary of the duke of B——.

'Jasper!' exclaimed he in a tone of horror.

'Who speaks?' said the ruffian in a sepulchral voice.

'Maurice of Thuringia.'

'Then has my time come—where is the count? but—I murdered him.'

'No wretch, he escaped from thy hands; as thou dost hope for mercy, confess who prompted thee to attempt his life.'

'The duke,' said Jasper faintly, 'he was the cause of all.'

The marquis saw the necessity of having his confession regularly taken, and had him placed upon a horse (which had belonged to one of his servants who had been killed in the late struggle,) between two of the party who now set forward at a rapid pace. By morning they had arrived to a place of comparative safety. A priest who examined the wounds of Jasper, discovered that a sword had penetrated his side in such a manner as to render his recovery highly doubtful. At the request of the marquis, he took the confession of the ruffian, who expired soon after he had finished his relation. Leaving the marquis to proceed on his journey, we will return to the count whom the guards conveyed immediately to prison. The heart of the unfortunate youth sunk within him at the grating of the massy doors which were closed upon him, and the sight of the cell which he was to inhabit. Overcome with his emotions he at length sunk upon the straw with which his cell was provided, in a profound sleep. His slumbers were however disturbed and unrefreshing; confused images of his father and Wilhelmina floated through his brain. When he awoke the rays of the sun were streaming through the narrow aperture which served as a window to his cell; and the keeper soon entered bearing a brown loaf and a jug of water; he announced a message from the council, and as he spoke, the secretary of the council entered the apartment.

'Count,' said he abruptly, 'I come to you with a message from the council of the empire; the proofs which have been laid before them of your guilt, are so strong as to preclude the possibility of defence; they have the letters of the marquis avowing his and your treachery, yet in consideration of your youth they are disposed to proceed with lenity, and will restore you your liberty on condition that you will acquaint them with the plans of the marquis.'

'Sooner would I die a thousand deaths,' exclaimed the count vehemently.

'Then hear your sentence, which is that you shall be beheaded three days from the present time, or as soon as the emperor shall have signed the warrant for your execution, with which a messenger has been despatched to him. Would you desire the presence of a holy man?'

'Not of the Romish faith.'

'Reprobate, and accursed,' muttered the secretary, and retired.

The hours passed heavily away, and the shades of evening were again closing around the prison, when Armand heard the outer gate unbarred, and the voice of the keeper as it ushering some one along the narrow passage. The door of his cell was opened, and Wilhelmina threw herself upon his breast. Overcome with her emotions, she swooned upon his bosom. Long and anxiously did Armand bend over her pale form, ere she gave signs of returning animation; and when at length she opened her eyes and beheld De Ligny kneeling by her side, it was but to close them in agony at the horrors of his situation.

'Wilhelmina!' exclaimed he. She started from his bosom.

'He shall not perish!' cried the beautiful girl, extending her arms as if to shield him from danger.

'My sentence has been pronounced, and Wilhelmina—we must part forever; a messenger has been already despatched to obtain the signature of the emperor.'

'Yet thou shalt not die!' exclaimed Wilhelmina fervently.

'We meet for the last time,' said the count mournfully.

'Not the last! not the last! we shall meet again.'

On the evening of the day after the interview of the lovers, a solitary horseman was seen speeding his way from the Austrian camp at Gerund, to the city of Vienna. The lightning flashed, and the rain fell in torrents. As the horseman approached a thick wood, a man suddenly started from among the trees, and seized his horse by the bridle.

'Deliver the warrant which thou bearest.'

The terrified messenger did as he was commanded, and the stranger instantly disappeared in the depth of the forest.

Three days had passed and the count still lived. The retreat of the Turks now induced the emperor to alter the destination of his troops, and march upon Inspruck.—Again was the messenger despatched to obtain a renewal of the warrant. With a pistol cocked in his hand, and lashing his spurs into his horse, he passed the scene of the former robbery; but as he incautiously turned his head backward, a pistol flashed in the face of his horse, who rearing, threw his rider to the ground. In an instant the foot of the stranger was on his breast.

'Deliver the warrant, or die!'

Speechless with horror and surprise, the messenger gave him the warrant and he again disappeared from his sight.—The council were struck with consternation at this second miscarriage of the warrant; and while they were deliberating upon it, a courier arrived with the intelligence that the army of the emperor had been surprised at Inspruck by the forces of the league, and that the emperor himself had narrowly escaped being taken prisoner. And that he had entered into a negotiation with the marquis of Thuringia, in consequence of which, and the confessions of the ruffian Jasper, he had sent an order for the arrest of the duke of ——, and the release of the Count de Ligny. The count proceeded from the prison to the mansion of the marquis, but was informed by the steward that Wilhelmina had been gone from the city several days. Armand was greatly surprised at this intelligence, which he could by no means reconcile with her declaration in the prison. He therefore set out for Thuringia. He was agreeably surprised at finding the marquis at the castle. The marquis was greatly distressed when informed of the absence of his daughter, for which he could assign no satisfactory reason. While they were engaged in conversation, a servant entered who informed them that a stranger had alighted at the castle, who wished to be admitted to their presence. A person of low stature entered, whose face was concealed by a helmet, and whose person was enveloped in a cloak. He extended to the count a small packet. Armand glanced upon it with surprise, it contained the lost warrant.

'My preserver!' exclaimed he.

'Burn those papers,' said the stranger.

'By what name shall I thank my deliverer?' said the count eagerly. The stranger appeared agitated by some internal emotion—his hand trembled violently as he attempted to undo the fastenings of his helmet, which falling aside, disclosed the features of—Wilhelmina.

'Merciful heaven!' said the count, 'Wilhelmina, did you for my sake endure this armour, and encounter the dangers of the forest?'

The following day the marquis joyfully bestowed the hand of Wilhelmina upon the count. The duke of B—— was detained a prisoner for a time, and then banished from the empire. The peace of Passau which followed soon after, and at which the rights of the Protestants were fully recognized, afforded to the count the privilege of retiring to his paternal castle, and enjoying with Wilhelmina—*the sweets of domestic life.*

(From Silliman's Journal.)

ADVENTURE OF LEWIS WETZEL.*

Amongst the heroes of border warfare, Lewis Wetzel held no inferior station.—Inured to hardships while yet in boyhood, and familiar with all the varieties of forest adventure, from that of hunting the beaver and the bear, to that of the wily Indian, he became one of the most celebrated marksmen of the day. His form was erect, and of that height best adapted to activity, being very muscular, and possessed of great bodily strength. From constant exercise, he could without fatigue bear prolonged and violent exertion, especially that of running and walking; and he had, by practice, acquired the art of loading his rifle when running at full speed through the forest; and, wheeling on the instant, he could discharge it with unerring aim, at the distance of eighty or one hundred yards, into a mark not larger than a dollar. This art he has been known more than once to practice with fatal success on his savage foes.

A marksman of superior skill was, in those days, estimated by the other borderers much in the same way that a knight templar, or a knight of the cross, who excelled in the tournament or the charge, was valued by his cotemporaries, in the days of chivalry. Challenges of skill often took place; and marksmen, who lived at the distance of fifty miles or more from each other, frequently met by appointment, to try the accuracy of their aim, on bets of considerable amount. Wetzel's fame had spread far and wide, as the most expert and unerring shot of the day. It chanced that a young man, a few years younger than myself, who lived on Dunkard's creek, a tributary of the Monongahela river, which waters one of the earliest settlements in that region, heard of his fame, and as he also was an expert woodsman, and a first rate shot, the best in his settlement, he became very desirous of an opportunity for a trial of skill. So great was his desire, that he one day shouldered his rifle, and whistling his faithful dog to his side, started for the neighborhood of Wetzel, who, at that time, lived on Wheeling creek, distant about twenty miles from the settlement on Dunkard's creek. When about half way on his journey, a fine buck sprang up just before him. He levelled his gun with his usual precision, but the deer, though badly wounded, did not fall dead in his tracks. His faithful dog soon seized him and brought him to the ground, but while in the act of doing this, another dog sprang from the forest upon the deer, and his master, making his appearance at the same time from behind a tree, with a loud voice claimed the buck as his property, because he had been wounded by his shot and seized by his dog. It so happened that they had both fired at once at this deer, a fact which may very well happen where two active men are hunting on the same ground, although one may fire at the distance of fifty yards, and the other at one hundred. The dogs felt the same spirit of rivalry with their masters, and quitting the deer, which was already dead, fell to worrying and tearing each other. In separating the dogs, the stranger hunter happened to strike that of the young man. The old adage, "strike my dog, strike myself," arose in full force, and without further ceremony, except a few hearty curses, he fell upon the hunter and hurled him to the ground. This was no sooner done than he found himself turned, and under his stronger and more powerful antagonist.—Discovering that he was no match at this play, the young man appealed to the trial of rifles, saying it was too much like dogs, for men, and hunters, to fight in this way. The stranger assented to the trial, but told his antagonist that before he put it fairly to the test, he had better witness what he was able to do with the rifle, saying that he was as much superior, he thought, with that weapon, as he was in bodily strength. He bid him place a mark the size of a shilling on the side of a huge poplar that stood beside them, from which he would start with his rifle unloaded, and running a hundred yards at full speed, he would load it as he ran, and wheeling, would discharge it instantly to the centre of the mark. The feat was no sooner proposed than performed! the ball entered the centre of the diminutive target: astonished at his activity and skill, his antagonist instantly inquired his name. Lewis Wetzel, at your service, answered the stranger. The young hunter seized him by the hand with all the ardor of youthful admiration, and at once acknowledged his own inferiority. So charmed was he with Wetzel's frankness, skill, and fine personal appearance, that he insisted upon his returning with him to the settlement on Dunkard's creek, that he might exhibit his talents to his own family, and to the hardy backwoodsmen, his neighbors. Nothing loth to such an exhibition, and pleased with the energy of his new acquaintance, Wetzel consented to accompany him; shortening the way with their mutual tales of hunting excursions and hazardous contests with the common enemies of the country. Amongst other things, Wetzel stated his manner of distinguishing the footsteps of a white man from those of an Indian, although covered with moccasins, and intermixed with the tracks of savages. He had acquired this tact from closely examining the manner of placing the feet; the Indian stepped with his feet in parallel lines, and first bringing the toe to the ground; while the white man almost invariably places his feet [illegible] man's home, which they did that day, they found the dwelling a smoking ruin, and all the family lying murdered and scalped, except a young woman who had been brought up in the family, and to whom the young man was ardently attached. She had been taken away alive, as was ascertained by examining the trail of the savages. Wetzel soon discovered that the party consisted of three Indians and a renegado white man, a fact not uncommon in those early days, when, for crime or the love of revenge, the white outlaw fled to the savages, and was adopted on trial into their tribe.

As it was past the middle of the day, and the nearest assistance still at some considerable distance, and there were only *four* to contend with, they decided on instant pursuit. As the deed had very recently been done, they hoped to overtake them in their camp that night, and perhaps before they could cross the Ohio river, to which the Indians always retreated after a successful incursion, considering themselves in a manner safe when they had crossed to its right bank, at that time occupied wholly by the Indian tribes.

Ardent and unwearied was the pursuit, by the youthful huntsmen; the one, excited to recover his lost mistress, the other, to assist his new friend, and to take revenge for the slaughter of his countrymen—slaughter and revenge being the daily business of the borderers at this portentous period.* Wetzel followed the trail with the unerring sagacity of a bloodhound; and just at dusk traced the fugitives to the noted war path, nearly opposite to the mouth of Captina creek, emptying into the Ohio, which, much to their disappointment, they found the Indians had crossed, by forming a raft of logs and brush, their usual manner when at a distance from their villages. By examining carefully the appearance on the opposite shore, they soon discovered the fire of the Indian camp in a hollow way, a few rods from the river. Lest the noise of constructing a raft should alarm the Indians, and give notice of the pursuit, the two hardy adventurers determined to swim the stream a few rods below. This they easily accomplished, being both of them excellent swimmers; fastening their clothes and ammunition in a bundle on the tops of their heads, with their rifles resting on the left hip, they reached the opposite shore in safety; after carefully examining their arms, and putting every article of attack or defence in its proper place, they crawled very cautiously to a position which gave them a fair view of their enemies, who, thinking themselves safe from pursuit, were carelessly reposing around their fire, thoughtless of the fate that awaited them. They instantly discovered the young woman apparently unhurt, but making much mourning and lamentation, while the white man was trying to pacify and console her with the promise of kind usage, and an adoption in the tribe. The young man, hardly able to restrain his rage, was for firing and rushing instantly upon them.—Wetzel, more cautious, told him to wait until daylight appeared, when they could meet with a better chance of success, and of also killing the whole party, but if they attacked in the dark, a part of them would certainly escape.

As soon as daylight dawned, the Indians arose and prepared to depart. The young man selecting the white renegado, and Wetzel an Indian, they both fired at the same time, each killing his man. The young man rushed forward knife in hand, to relieve the young woman, while Wetzel reloaded his gun and pushed in pursuit of the two surviving Indians, who had taken to the woods, until they could ascertain the number of their enemies. Wetzel, as soon as he saw that he was discovered, discharged his rifle at random, in order to draw them from their covert. Hearing the report, and finding themselves unhurt, the Indians rushed upon him before he could again reload. This was as he wished: taking to his heels, Wetzel loaded as he ran, and suddenly wheeling about, discharged his rifle through the body of his nearest, but unsuspecting enemy. The remaining Indian, seeing the fate of his companion, and that his enemy's rifle was unloaded, rushed forward with all energy, the prospect of prompt revenge being fairly before him. Wetzel led him on, dodging from tree to tree, until his rifle was again ready, when suddenly turning, he shot his remaining enemy, who fell dead at his feet. After taking their scalps, Wetzel and his friend, with their rescued captive, returned in safety to the settlement. Like honest Joshua Fleehart, after the peace of 1795, Wetzel pushed for the frontiers on the Mississippi, where he could trap the beaver, hunt the buffalo and the deer, and occasionally shoot an Indian, the object of his mortal hatred. He finally died as he had always lived, a *free man of the forest.*

* Received from a gentleman of my acquaintance, to whom one of the party related the story, a few years after the transaction took place; and with which my friend was also familiar from the narration of others.

* Between 1781 and 1784.

Copy of a handbill found nailed against a tree in an Irish Chapelyard, in 1 4?—"Michael Flanagan, travelling dancing master, will give lessons for the next fortnight at Davy Dogherty's barn, at the low rate of two skillens and a tester the week, to be concluded by a ball, tickets, including a tumbler of punch tenpence. Gentlemen taking a ticket allowed to trate a lady."

REPORT

On the Conneaut and Beaver, and Beaver and Conneaut Rail Roads; which, together, constitute one continuous line from Conneaut Harbor, on Lake Erie, to the Ohio river, at the mouth of Beaver; by W. K. Scott, Esq. Civil Engineer.

To the Commissioners of the Conneaut and Beaver Rail Road.

Gentlemen:

Having completed the preliminary survey of the Conneaut and Beaver Rail Road, in conformity with my instructions, I have now the honor of presenting thereupon the following report.

The line commences at Conneaut Harbor, and runs direct to Kingsville, a distance of 8 miles. From this place to Monroe, it was found impracticable to take the shortest route, without increasing the grade which I had proposed as a maximum. The ground, too, in the direct course, is broken by deep ravines and high ridges of land, which would greatly increase the cost of grading. By taking a circuitous route, both these difficulties are obviated. The line passes through the centre of the village of Monroe, and crosses the Ashtabula creek nearly a mile above. It then follows the turnpike leading from Monroe to Kinsman, seven miles and a half, to Crooker's, where it crosses the same creek twice, and continues on the township lines to the north line of Trumbull county, where it reaches the valley of the Puymatuning. It continues in this valley until the stream is crossed near Kinsman village. It then bears South, four degrees West, to the line between Vernon and Hartford, near the head waters of Big Yankee run. The valley of this stream is followed to the Pennsylvania line, a few chains beyond the mouth of the Little Yankee run, where the Shenango leaves the State of Ohio.

The nature of the ground over which the line passes, is uncommonly favorable to the construction of a Rail Road. The earth is everywhere easily excavated, no rock to remove, and no long and costly viaducts to construct. Timber, too, of an excellent quality, abounds upon the line, and in its immediate vicinity, and can be procured at a trifling cost. Not only can the road be easily constructed, but the grades, curves, and proportion of straight line, are far more favourable than was expected by its most sanguine friends. The greatest acclivity encountered in coming from Pennsylvania to the lake will be 28.80 feet in a mile; and from Conneaut to Pennsylvania, 40 feet. The shortest curve has more than half a mile radius. There will be one straight line of eight miles in length, and another of twenty-two. All the curves together will amount to but eighteen per cent. of the whole length of the road.

So many highly favorable circumstances combined in one road must greatly increase its value, for there will be nothing to impede the transportation of heavy burdens at a rapid rate; especially towards the lake, the direction in which most of the heavy articles will be conveyed.

In adapting a plan for this road I have had no occasion to hesitate. The wood and iron roads, as now made in New York and New Jersey, have been so thoroughly tested as to leave no doubt of the propriety of adopting them, and to render any thing said in their favor superfluous. They are, however, made of very different degrees of strength. While some, without injury, support the heaviest locomotives, under rapid motion, others are not capable of sustaining one of any description. The importance of this road, and the nature of the freight to be conveyed upon it, indicate the necessity of constructing it of great strength; and my estimates are made accordingly.

In conformity with my instructions, I have made calculation for no more than a single track, excepting the culverts, bridges and viaducts, which are adapted to a double track, the necessity of which the business of the road will clearly indicate in a short time after it is completed.

The superstructure is to be made in the usual form. Wood sills, six inches by twelve, imbedded in the earth—cross ties, six inches square, spiked to these once in three feet, from centre to centre—a wooden rail, six inches by six, resting in notches in the cross ties—and an iron plate rail, two and a half inches by three-fourths, firmly spiked to it. These proportions will make an extremely substantial work. The iron proposed is very heavy, weighing thirty tons to a mile, and at the present time will cost a large sum. But I am satisfied that to use a smaller plate would be mistaken economy; and such I have no doubt, will be the opinion of any one who carefully examines the effect of locomotives on roads with thinner iron.

In the construction of the bridges and culverts, stone being scarce, and its transportation attended with great expense, it is, therefore, deemed advisable to build them entirely of timber. The yellow poplar, which is said to be extremely durable, and white oak of a superior quality, both grow in great abundance upon the line. The building them of wood will materially lessen the first expense, and before they will require to be rebuilt, stone can be brought on the rail road for that purpose. The small culverts and water drains will, if possible, be so sunk as to be constantly wet, and in that case will require no repairs for a great length of time.

The estimates are made with great care.—The ground was more accurately measured than is common in a preliminary survey, and the calculations have been made in minute detail.

The price of iron I have put at ninety-five dollars a ton. This is based upon information received from Mark Richards, Esq. of Philadelphia, in July last. It then cost 70 dollars a ton to import rail road plate iron to that place. Transporting it to Conneaut, and distributing it upon the line, I have called $25 more.

The price of sawed timber varies a little in different parts of the line. I visited most of the owners of saw mills, obtained their prices, and took the highest.

On examining the estimate it will be seen, that the cost of fencing, and the claims for damages by the proprietors of the land through which the road will pass, have been omitted. So large a proportion of the inhabitants expressed a willingness to give their land and fence it, and so many offered a premium to have it pass through their farms, that I think few claims will be made, and if any, I have no means of ascertaining to what amount.

The whole length of the road, as laid, is sixty miles and three fourths, and is estimated to cost $467,865, or $7,702 per mile.

Few roads now contemplated have prospects of being more productive than this, connected, as it is expected to be, with the Beaver and Conneaut, and extending ultimately to Pittsburgh, and probably to Philadelphia.

The facilities which nature has given for its construction, will probably insure its becoming and continuing a great channel of communication between the east and the west, into which numerous smaller ones will empty, and to which they will become tributary. The ridges of land, and the valleys of the streams, are so situated as to render it easy to construct rail roads from the east and the west to this; but it is not so easy to connect the waters of the Ohio with Lake Erie by taking any other direction.

If the intercourse between the eastern and western portions of our country should continue as it now is—and there can be no doubt of its rapidly increasing for many years to come—the passengers alone who would travel on this road would probably pay the interest of the money required to build it.

At Pittsburgh is manufactured a large amount of heavy articles needed at the west, which, if taken there now, must be conveyed by a circuitous and costly route. It must be to that enterprizing and rapidly improving city a matter of great importance to have an easy, cheap and certain means of communication with the great western lakes—with three thousand miles of coast, backed by a country unequalled in fertility—with an almost unlimited market for their numerous manufactured articles. It must be to the people of the west equally important to have the transit of these articles made easy; and to the rail road their transportation cannot fail of being a rich and certain source of income.

The time is near at hand when Beaver, too, will be a large manufacturing and commercial town. The coal which abounds there—the iron ore—the materials for making glass—the immense water power which it can command, and its being the focal point of so many completed and contemplated means of communication, render its rapid growth as certain as any thing of the kind can be. Of all the articles there manufactured, a proportion, and that not a small one, will find a market through the medium of the rail road in question.

If, however, not one of these advantages existed, the Brookfield coal beds alone would be sufficient to support the road from that place to Conneaut. The superior quality of the coal—the facilities which the use of it will give to the manufacturing of iron, and the fact that it makes the most pleasant and agreeable fuel for domestic use, will insure its rapid sale when it can be delivered on the lake shore at a reasonable price. These coal beds then, which are very extensive, will at all times of the year be a certain source of income to the Rail Road Company. No train of cars need ever run towards the lake without full freight; and to a road like this, where there are no short curves, and no steep acclivities to prevent carrying heavy loads with great speed, it is a fact of immense importance.

If we add to all these sources of business, the carrying of the salt which even now is hauled in wagons from the lake to the interior;—the gypsum, so much wanted by the farmers, and which would now be used to an immense amount, but for the cost of transportation;—the lumber, plenty of near the line, which would find a ready market at either end of it; and the whole marketable productions of one of the richest and best flourishing agricultural districts in Ohio, together with all the goods required by its numerous inhabitants, we surely have enough to enable us to say with the fullest confidence that money vested in the stock of this road would yield to its proprietors a liberal income.

I have dwelt upon this part of the subject longer than I otherwise should have done, for the purpose of explaining why my estimate exceeds the cost of some roads recently built. I expect this, if constructed, to do more business than ordinary roads, and in the transportation of heavy freight to exceed any road with which I am acquainted; hence a light and cheaply constructed work would disappoint the expectations of the company and the public.

In this new country, where there is no rock to excavate, where the inhabitants will give the land, and where timber costs nothing but the expense of shaping it, rail roads can be built for a trifling sum, compared with the cost of similar works in the Atlantic States. Some of light structure have been built, and more are now being built, at a cost of from 4000 to $5000 a mile. Although these roads may answer the purpose for which they were intended, I am fully satisfied that it would be extremely unwise to construct, upon this route, any such work. No structure but one of a firm and substantial kind can be kept together for a single year, if locomotives, drawing full trains of heavily laden cars move daily upon it at a rate of from twelve to twenty miles an hour.

Another circumstance has had some influence in swelling the estimate. It is that so few works have been built without exceeding—and in some instances greatly exceeding—the estimated cost. Capitalists have often complained, and that with great justice too, that they have been thus decoyed into making investments which, had they known the truth in the beginning, they never would have made. I have therefore endeavoured so to make my computations that I might be enabled with confidence to say that the work can be done for the sum reported.

I herewith return a map or ground plan of the road, upon which is a small profile—a table of grades, and an estimate of the cost of the various portions of the work. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. K. SCOTT, Civil Engineer.

Estimate of the probable cost of the Conneaut and Beaver Rail Road.

241,200 yds.	Excavation, used for embankment at	7 c	16,884
384,729 "	Common excavation	9 c	34,625 61
183,706 "	Deep cuts	14 c	25,718 70
193,000 "	Embankment taken from excavation	8 c	15,468
154,632 "	Common emb'kment	10 c	15,463 20
43,664 "	" "	15 c	6,549 00
			114,7[illegible] 11

Viaduct over Ashtabula creek at Monroe	3,500
" " at Crooker's (2)	2,[illegible]00
" At Hays & Carpenter's mill	500
" Puymatuning at Kinsman	2,000
" Yankee run in Hartford	4,500
" Little Yankee run, Brookfield	1,000
	13,000
41 Small culverts of wood, average 650	2,000
20 do. 4 feet span 80	1,600
6 Bridges in lieu of large culverts 100	600
Grubbing and clearing	11,500
Road crossings	1 000
	1[illegible],750

Superstructure for one mile.

30 tons iron 2 1-2 by 3-4, delivered on the line at	$95	2 850
Spikes and splicing plates		175
95,040 ft. timber (b'd meas.) at 6 25 pr. m.		594
1,760 cross ties	14	246 40
Laying superstructure 320 rods at $2 00		640
Total cost of superstructure for one m.		4,505 40
Which multiplied by 60 3-4 gives the whole cost of superstructure		273,703 05
Turn outs		3,000
Gravelling horse path		3,250
		425,332 16
Add for unforeseen contingencies, Engineer, &c., 10 per cent.		42,533 21
Total		$467,865 27

Equal to $7,701 43 per mile.

Saturday Evening Post

JANUARY 28, 1837.

"T. Gossip" informs us that his father is a "professor of christianity!" When his son attains the same rank in the useful art of spelling he may trouble us with another communication.

"Lucian" is inadmissable.

"A Tale of the West," under consideration.

"X." "Lambda," "Hamilton" and "Carolus," are rejected.

We shall be pleased to hear from our correspondent, Senex.

Foot Pads.—A few evenings since, between the hours of five and six, a gentleman from the country was returning home from the city in a light wagon, on the Ridge road; when opposite to Turner's Lane, (where Porter robbed the mail) a person ran out from behind the stone wall, and caught hold of the reins of the horse. The gentleman had the presence of mind to give his foe a severe blow with the whip, and the horse being a good one, gave a jump, and upset the robber, and the gentleman made his escape. Several other persons were seen.—*Penn'n.*

Daring Forgery.—We understand that on Saturday last, a counterfeit check for sixteen thousand dollars, purporting to be drawn by S. & M. Allens, of this city, was represented at the United States Bank. The imitation of the hand writing was so perfect that no doubt was entertained as to the genuineness of the paper, but as it was drawn with pale ink, the Teller held it in a strong light, and for an instant looked at it in a scrutinising manner. The counterfeiter, supposing from this action, that the attempted fraud was discovered, thought it high time to be off, and leaving both check and money behind him, rushed swiftly from the Bank; but had his boldness been at all proportioned to the skilfulness of the forgery, he would now doubtless have been in possession of the prize at which he aimed. The check was so complete an imitation, that, we are informed, when it was taken to the office of Messrs. Allens, they would themselves have supposed it genuine. The only error about it was in the number.—*Pennsylvanian.*

Lyman Rathbun.—A letter has been received at Albany from Levi White, of that city, one of Lyman Rathbun's bail, announcing the seizure of nine trunks containing the baggage of the runaway (as supposed,) at Louisville Kentucky. Mr. White happened to be at Louisville, when the information of Rathbun's escape reached that place, and immediately took measures to intercept him. They were not successful, but the capture of his trunks may perhaps be advantageous to his creditors. An attachment was issued against them by the chancellor of Kentucky, under which they were to be sold in a few days and would then be broken open. Rathbun himself has been traced to New Orleans. His trunks were found in the possession of Col. C. G. Ferris, of the Texian army.—*N. Y. American.*

We have just learned that Mrs. Folly's boy, and five or six other criminals, were pardoned by the court during the last session of the legislature. Much sympathy was felt for the boy throughout the state, when his far more guilty mistress was pardoned, a few weeks after her conviction. It was generally, though incorrectly supposed, that he was not old enough to know better than to obey his mistress' command to murder. This, however, is an error, if the size of the boy is any criterion, for he has almost attained the stature of a man.

What a commentary upon our criminal code do these facts present. Mrs. Folly is pardoned because she is so fortunate as to be *insane*(!): her boy, because Mrs Folly was pardoned; and the rest to make up the half-dozen.—*State Gaz.*

ANOTHER SHIPWRECK.

The New York Mercantile Advertiser says,—"The British ship Tamarac, Captain Kain, from Liverpool the 11th of November, with a full cargo of iron, coal, crates, and a few bales of dry goods, consigned to Messrs. Douglas, Robinson & Co., of this city, went ashore on Long Island, near Fire Island light, at 4 o'clock on Wednesday morning. Five of the passengers have come up to this city; from them we learn that the ship lay near the main beach, in a very easy position, and had not made any water—she had on board one hundred and twenty-five passengers, all of whom, we are happy to state, were safely landed."

We have since seen an account which states, that the sea has made a complete breach over her, and that she was quite a mass of ice.—Before she struck, she hung out lights and fired signals of distress, but could get no assistance.

Line of Telegraphs.—John R. Parker, in consequence of the success which has attended the establishment of his Marine Telegraph, has been induced to petition Congress to establish a permanent line of Telegraphs upon the seaboard, for the purpose of transmitting intelligence important to the commercial and trading interests of the country.

The New York Herald publishes a full account of the wreck of the fine ship Tamarac. After the ship had struck, and when daylight appeared, the Herald goes on to say—

At last a boat was got out, but before reaching the shore was swamped. A shriek of despair went up from the passengers at this sight.—"Never mind," said the brave Captain, "let us try the launch." This effort was more successful. With the help of the people on shore, they got a line conveyed to the land. Then began the process of saving human life. In six trips the whole of the passengers were conveyed on shore, with the exception of a young child, that was frozen to death. To the almost superhuman exertions of the Captain and his crew, was this piece of conduct owing. During the whole time, the sea was powerfully breaking over the vessel—but even in this the angry elements showed more mercy than the pilots and politicians of New York. She is now full of water, and probably by this time has gone to pieces.

The poor passengers again finding themselves on land were frantic with joy. The women embraced each other, and burst into tears of joy—the brothers folded their sisters in their arms—the husbands their wives, and wept also with tears of joy. Even the cold—the terrible piercing cold, could not restrain the overflowings of their joyous hearts. Now they trod once more the solid earth. "Let me be sure," said one, "that I am safe"—and he jumped on the shore as if he had been crazy. Oh! death! Oh! eternity! Oh thou dread hereafter! how we pant to avoid thee, even in the keenest throbs of suffering this world can throw into our devoted hearts!

Manufacturing in New Jersey.—Notices have been given in the New Jersey papers that application will be made to the legislature of that State at its next session for acts of incorporation for the following manufacturing purposes. For a company to manufacture sugar from the beet; with a capital of $500,000, to be located in Bergen and Essex, with banking and trust powers. For a company to manufacture silk and cotton, to be located in Essex, with a capital of $200,000. For a company to manufacture cotton and other substances, to be called the Globe Mill, and located at Patterson, with a capital of $75,000, and liberty to increase it to $150,000. For a company to raise Mulberry trees and manufacture silk, with a capital of $100,000, and liberty to increase it to $200,000, to be located at Burlington. For a company to raise beets and manufacture sugar therefrom, with a capital of $100,000, and liberty to increase it to $200,000, to be located at Burlington.

Captain Winslow.—The New York American thus takes back its censure in relation to the captain of the Mexico:

We have had an interview with the owner—whose brother, a young man of 14 or 15 years of age, was on board and happily saved—and derive from him the information, that so far from abandoning his post, Captain Winslow *again and again resisted the urgent importunities of his passengers*, who were much attached to, and had the greatest confidence in him—to go in the boat, and devise some means to bring from the shore the relief, which they were aware could no longer be furnished from the ship. Men and women clung round him and besought him, by going, to save them. Still reluctant, he proposed that the mate should go, and he would remain to assist from the ship any efforts from the shore; this the manly fellow—who, alas! perished—refused, and joined in the urgent appeals to the captain to go. Still he hesitated, and the boat had actually pushed off from under the bowsprit, when, yielding at last, the captain clambered out to the end of the bowsprit where he was seen by the cook, who was in the boat, and begged the boatmen to put back for him. He then dropped into the boat, and reached the shore in safety, only to find every effort to induce the crew to return, unavailing, and to hear the shrieks, and witness almost the agonies, he was powerless to relieve.

Supposed Piracy.—Capt. Borum, of the Rebecca Francis, at Baltimore, from Cape Haytien, reports that on the 14th ult. two men arrived at that place in a yawl boat, one of them a black the other a white man, reported themselves to the American Agent as being cast away in the brig Spy of New York, Capt. McLane on a voyage from New York to Bermuda, from Bermuda to Turks Island, and from thence on her way to Port au Platt, St. Domingo, struck on the Square Handkerchief Shoal, and was lost. A few days after, the schr. Orient, Philips, arrived at Cape Haytien, and reported as having been spoken by a Turks Island pilot boat, and was told that an American vessel, lying in Turks Island, had been robbed of 500 Spanish dollars, by two of her crew, who had ran away with the yawl. On the arrival of said [illegible] about them about $130 in cash, and also articles they had bought, to the amount of $50 more, making a sum, as far as the Reporter could understand, of about $180. He understood from the Agent, that they will remain in prison until there is an opportunity to send them to the United States.

A New Motive Power.—The Saratoga Sentinel gives an account of a singular and important invention by Messrs. Davenport and Cork of that village. It is an Electro Magnetic Engine, consisting of a stationary magnetic circle, formed of disconnected segments. These segments are permanently charged magnets, the repelling poles of which are placed contiguous to each other. Within the circle stands the motive wheel, having projecting galvanic magnets, which revolve as near the circle as they can be brought without actual contact. The galvanic magnets are charged by a battery, and when so charged, magnetic attraction, and repulsion are both brought into requisition in giving motion to the wheel—the poles of the galvanic magnets being changed more than a thousand times per minute.

A model in which the motive wheel was 5½ inches diameter, elevated a weight of twelve pounds—another model was exhibited with a motive wheel of eleven inches diameter, which elevated a weight of *eighty pounds*. Measures are about to be taken to procure patents in this country and Europe.—*Sentinel.*

From the Wheeling Times of Saturday last.

Shocking Murder.—On Wednesday evening last, another murder was committed in our city, and one which evidently took its rise not from any anticipated gain, or previous malice, but from that base, unmanly and criminal practice, now so prevalent, of carrying weapons of defence. The deceased was a youth of 17 or 18 years of age, who with a smaller boy, was going on an errand through East Wheeling between eight and nine o'clock in the evening. They met a larger boy on the way, who asked them who they were? They replied, "none of his business." A scuffle ensued, and after a little struggle the large one escaped, and the deceased cried out, "I am stabbed." Persons who were at hand, came up and carried him into a house, where he was examined, and the wound in his left side between the fifth and sixth rib, pronounced but a trifling scratch, as it appeared upon the outside, being narrow and apparently striking the fifth rib. After laying a short time upon the bed, we understood the deceased walked home, with assistance. About three hours after the occurrence, he died. On Thursday the body was opened by Dr. Frissell, and to the astonishment of all who had believed that a wound in the heart was instantly fatal, it was found that the dirk, a blade apparently of half an inch, had passed between the fifth and sixth rib, escaped the lungs, perforated the pericardium, entered the heart about midway, and passed through to the cavity—had gone home to the very fountain of the stream of life, and yet the sufferer lived three hours.

The army of Gomez the Carlist general, who had been ravaging the province of Andalusia for three months, and baffling all the troops of the Queen, by which it had been constantly surrounded, was at length destroyed in a battle near Medina Sidonia, almost within sight of Cadiz. Gomez had made an unsuccessful attempt to retire to the Tagus, but was prevented by the presence of Rodil, the minister of war, with a large force interposing. Rodil was recalled to Madrid, to answer for misconduct in not bringing Gomez to action. His army was left in command of General Narvaez, who commanded in the battle of the 25th and 26th, near Cadiz. Espinoza was superseded as captain general of Andalusia by Ordonez, his second in command.

Gomez had threatened Seville for nearly a fortnight. He marched down to Algesiras, where he had a slight action, in which a [illegible]

[illegible]

SEVERAL LIVES LOST—REMARKABLE SLIDE.

The Troy Budget of Monday, contains an account of an extraordinary slide of a hill in that town, which was attended with very disastrous consequences to the citizens in the vicinity of its occurrence. The following is a description of the event.

An avalanche of clay came tumbling from an eminence of nearly 500 feet, moving down the base of a hill to level land, and then continued from the impulse it received, to the distance of about 600 feet, covering up acres of ground, accompanied with cataract of water and sand which kept up a terrible roar. The mass moved along with great rapidity, carrying with it two stables and three dwelling-houses, and crushing them and their contents in thousands of pieces.—The stables and horses were moved to a distance of over 200 feet into an hollow on the corner of Washington and Fourth streets.

In this way the avalanche also encountered a brick-kiln burying it partially over and crumbling it together, from which a few minutes after the flames rushed forth and lit up the city as with a great conflagration.

The three dwellings destroyed were of light structure, one occupied by Mr. John Grace, another by Mrs. Leavensworth, and the third by a Mrs. Warner, the last of which was fortunately vacant at the time of the calamity. In Grace's house was himself and wife and little boy. The two former were extracted from the ruins, dead, and the boy was taken out alive, very little hurt, bare footed and bare headed, the buildings having shattered in a thousand pieces—which is undoubtedly one of the most singular escapes that ever came to our knowledge. There were four of Mrs. Leavensworth's family in her house—herself and three children were in bed at that time and probably asleep, and were afterwards taken from the midst of the wreck dead, crushed almost to a jelly, and were undoubtedly thrown instantly from a natural sleep into a sleep of death. Mrs. Leavensworth was taken out shockingly bruised, and was barely alive when we last heard from her. Fortunately three of the family were at church at the time, and escaped awful deaths.

The stables were owned by Mr. Bingham, in which were 22 horses, and all carried along with the mass together, with nine or ten dirt carts. Six horses were taken from the ruins alive, the other sixteen were killed.

We learn that the body of a person was found, unknown, who was probably employed in the brick kiln or stables—which makes in all FIVE DEAD BODIES, taken from the ruins last night.

The avalanche passed over a highway which leads to a mill and nail factory, and might have carried along with it some straggling traveller. The clay is piled up in masses to the depth of from 10 to 40 feet over a large surface.

Five large trees were precipitated from the hill, some of which are now standing erect at the bottom, and others in a slightly inclined posture. The whole is considered a singular phenomenon, and its immediate cause is the result of much speculation.

INTERESTING FROM THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

The Baltimore Chronicle contains a long letter from its correspondent at Frederick, Maryland, giving a detailed notice of the proceedings before the Court of Inquiry on Saturday last.

General Gaines appeared there, dressed in full uniform, and attended by two aids, and immediately after the commencement of the proceedings, pronounced them illegal and demanded the right of cross-questioning witnesses, examining documentary evidence, &c. The following scene then occurred:

Lt. Morris was sworn—"Where and in what capacity were you in April last?

Answer—At Tampa Bay—I was commissary of Depot.

General Gaines—"I beg leave, with due deference, to state, Mr. President—

General Macomb—"General, I repeat that you cannot be permitted to address the Court, until your case is before it."

General Gaines—"I appear before you, sir, by orders"—

Gen. M.—"You will oblige the Court, sir, by your silence"—

Gen. G.—"I formally protest against the course pursued by this court"—

Gen. M.—"I have once more to say, General Gaines, that you cannot be allowed to interfere in any way with the progress of this trial, and a repetition of such conduct will be viewed as deliberate contempt! Pray be seated.

Gen. G.—"I beg your pardon, sir; standing is a custom of mine, and I ask to be gratified in this particular."

Gen. M.—"Certainly, General. Consult your convenience in sitting or standing—by pleasing yourself you will gratify the court."

[illegible]

EPITOME OF THE TIMES.

The Eighth of January was the Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, as well as of the birth of Nicholas Biddle.

Lehigh Coal Trade.—The shipments of coal from Mauch Chunk this season commenced on the 14th of April, and closed on the 14th of Dec. During this period 3465 boats were despatched carrying 146,798 tons of coal.

Much of the late embarrassments among the merchants at Mobile, is imputed to the difficulty of procuring discounts at New Orleans.

The mania for speculating in land exists to a violent degree in New Orleans. Some swamps on Lake Ponchartrain laid out into 125 city squares or blocks brought $300,000.

The Ohio Canal Land sales this year amount to 136,006 acres, at $89,818 81.

Rathbun Allen escaped from Buffalo jail, like Gen. Lavalette, from the Conciergerie, in the disguise of a friend's clothes.

The Boston Common Iron Fence, now completed, cost $82,500. Whole length of the sides over a mile.

It was recently reported at New Orleans that *Santa Anna* had been *Lynched* at Memphis, Tennessee.

The Miami Canal Tolls, Ohio, yields this year $49,754 60.

Mr. Poindexter is recovering.

Near 400 Germans have gone from Cincinnati to work on the improvements at Chicago, Illinois.

The condition of the New York Seamstresses has excited much sympathy among all classes there. A meeting was held at the Tabernacle on Wednesday last, for their aid.

The products of the manufactories in Pittsburgh, for the present year, are estimated at more than $2,500,000.

The New York Courier states that a company has been formed in that city, and more than $100,000 of the stock taken, for the erection of four large, powerful and commodious steam packets, to ply regularly between that port and Charleston.

Shipwrecks.—It has been calculated that the annual loss of British shipping amounts to L.3,000,000, and the loss of life to 1000.

Naval.—The U. S. ship John Adams sailed on the 10th of November from Marseilles for Mahon.—The United States and Constitution were at Mahon, on the 4th of November, officers and crew in good health.

Shocking.—A house was lately burnt in Western Bay, Newfoundland. Melancholy to relate, six children, the only inmates of the house at the time, were burnt to cinders! The parents were absent at the time of the accident, in another part of the Island.

Railroads.—There are fifty railroads in France; in England, 300 miles completed, and 513 in progress; in America, about 3000 miles completed, or in progress.

Fires.—Several attempts have recently been made to set fire to the village of Skaneateles. The trustees of that place have offered a reward of one thousand dollars for the detection of the offender.

Camp Sabine.—An Arkansas paper of the 15th ult. says that Gen. Arbuckle has ordered the troops to return from Nacogdoches.

Fatal Accident.—Three persons were lately drowned in the branch of Eagle Hollow, one mile and a half above Madison, Ia. The accident occurred in attempting to cross the creek in a wagon.—The persons drowned were Mr. Hillis, Mrs. Littlejohn and her grand daughter, a child six or seven years old.

Gov. Veazey.—This gentleman has been reelected Governor of Maryland, by a vote of 17 to eleven.

A Wreck.—The steamer Wm. Scott, arrived here on the 6th inst. from Norfolk, fell in on Thursday morning, between Cape Fear and Cape Romain, with a vessel bottom up, apparently a brig of about 250 tons burthen—had a verdigris bottom, the false keel knocked off, and appeared to have been but a short time in that situation.—*Charleston Cour.*

Bank of Washtenaw.—This institution has declared a dividend of 4 per cent. This, says the Ann Harbor Journal, speaks much in favor of our county and the solvency of the institution.

Bank of Tecumseh.—An advertisement in the last Tecumseh Democrat, states that this institution is now in operation.

The number of interments at New Haven last year, exclusive of those at Fair Haven and [illegible]

[illegible]

ATKINSON'S SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA.

Saturday, January 14, 1837.

We are indebted to the Hon. J. W. Tyson, of the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, for valuable legislative documents.

Melancholy Case of Suicide.—Mr. Jacob Brandsetter, a respectable butcher, living in Fourth street near Green Lane, destroyed himself on Thursday week, at his residence, by cutting his throat with a butcher knife. An inquest was held on the same day, and it appearing in evidence that the deceased was subject to fits of temporary derangement, a verdict to that effect was returned. The deceased was the father of six children.

The ice boat at Baltimore is found of immense service. Up to Jan. 3d, notwithstanding the cold weather, the communication between the harbor and bay was preserved free through the instrumentality of this boat.

The expenditures of the city of New York the present year, are estimated at *three millions and eighty one thousand dollars!* of which *one million* will be for opening streets!

The Money Market and Stocks.—About every description of stocks advanced in New York on Saturday.

South Carolina and Texas.—The House of Representatives of South Carolina, adopted a report against admitting Texas into the Union, and the Senate concurred in it on the 4th of January. Being unable to agree, the matter ends.

Texas.—It appears by an advertisement in the N. Orleans Commercial Bulletin, that the Texan government has taken efficient measures to pay the interest upon the debts contracted there during the late campaign.

The number of letters daily delivered in the city of New York are estimated at 3000. These being delivered mostly by carriers, at 2 cents each, the penny postage is $36.00 per annum.

We learn with regret that a man named *Downing*, was found on Saturday last at Bristol, burg, by the bursting of a blunderbuss. He was celebrating the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans.

Public Lands.—The United States own 128 millions of acres of surveyed land in the States and the territories of Michigan and Florida, of which 122 millions can now be entered at $1.25 per acre. The remainder in the course of new land will soon be thrown into market.

We learn by the Indiana Journal that a joint resolution has been introduced to the legislature of that State, opposed to the annexation of Texas to the United States. It has passed a second reading, and is expected to produce a long and lively discussion when taken up for a final passage.

The journey of Santa Anna to Washington, "as said to be in consequence of a recommendation of Gen. Jackson, who in a letter to Gen. Houston, offered his services as mediator, and invited Santa Anna to Washington. Santa Anna is said to have expressed his willingness to have Texas united to the United States, and proposed to the Hon. Hopkins Holsey, a confidential law between the United States and Mexico so as to make the Rio Grande del Norte the boundary, which would leave to the State of Texas the greater part of Coahuila, and four fifths of New Mexico, this being the boundary which Texas claims."

Encyclopedia of Geography.—In three vols. 1800 pages, 8vo, with several maps, illustrated with 82 maps, and about eleven hundred engravings on wood, representing the most remarkable objects of nature and art, the civil, political and statistical state of the globe, published by Carey, Lea & Blanchard, Philadelphia 1837.

The Encyclopedia of Geography is one of the most valuable works that has been published for many years. It is also truly elegant in paper, type, and printing, and got up at a great cost to the publishers, as proposals are issued for it, before having occasioned an expense of nearly *eleven thousand dollars.* Its publication by subscription has been determined on as a means of more general circulation.

The plan of the work is not only scientific with improvements on former geographical works, but is peculiar in its adaptation to the use of the general reader, as well as to the scholar—comprising "a complete description of the earth, physical, statistical, civil and political; exhibiting its relation to the Heavenly bodies, its physical structure, the natural history of each country, and the civil, political, moral and statistical character, civil and social state of all nations." The learned author, Hugh Murray, Esq. was assisted in the getting up, in astronomy, &c. by Professor Walker; geology, &c. by Professor Jameson, in botany, &c. by Professor Hooper, and in zoology, &c. by W. Swainson, Esq. and was aided with talent by many countrymen, Thomas G. Bradford, Esq.

We cannot do better than give our readers a copy of the advertisement of the editor of the American edition.

The object and plan of the *Encyclopedia of Geography*, are pointed out in full by the author in the preface to the English edition, and the names of the eminent men his collaborators are sufficient vouchers for the value of the work. It is the aim of the American reader, to inform him in what respects these volumes differ from the original. The whole of the English work is here given, with the single exception, that the chapter on Great Britain, which occupied more than one-third of the book devoted to Europe, and considerably more than the space given to the whole of America, has been somewhat abridged; but, it is believed, without the omission of any thing of importance. The text has been carefully revised and corrected throughout, and in many cases more recent statistical details have been substituted for those of the original. The additions to the first volumes are not considerable in amount, but they generally such as have been required by changes in society, or the progress of civilization of things. The book relating to America has been carefully revised by the author. The work would allow, principally by the addition of local details, the continuation of the history of the States is too unsettled to render it worth while to fill many pages with accounts of ephemeral relations, which might be entirely changed before these pages met the eye of the reader. The chapter relating to Texas, it is hoped, has been written anew, the original being extremely imperfect and incorrect; and no pains have been taken on the subject are.—Our growth in wealth, population, and resources, in trade, commerce, manufactures, and other industrial resources, so amazing, after the lapse of new years, this, says, states, is continually making such a change in the face of things, public works are concerned, planned, and executed on so great a scale and with such promptitude, that it is not at all surprising that the work should be found entirely faulted in his attempts to describe the country as it is. The *Zoological* section has alone been retained, but it has been much enlarged, chiefly from a later work of Mr. Swainson's; and some general remarks on the climate of the United States have been added. For the account of the United States, the author is indebted to Professor Rogers, of the University of Pennsylvania. A Biblical section has also been prepared by a gentleman of high literary and theological world. The editor is partially sensible of the imperfection of the other parts of this chapter, but he trusts that the difficulties of the subject will obtain for him the indulgence of the reader.

Agents are engaged in receiving subscriptions, but such persons as have not been called on by them, and who wish the work, can have it sent to them by forwarding their names to the publishers.

The price of the work is $3 a volume, embossed muslin—$3.50 in leather, $4 in extra binding.

In our next we propose to continue the subject, copying some "notices of the press" respecting the work. They are crowded out this week.

OUR ARCHIVES.

We are indebted to the politeness of the Hon. J. W. Tyson of the Assembly, at Harrisburg, for a copy of the memorial of the American Philosophical and Historical Societies of this city, in relation to the publication of certain Colonial records, now in the office of the Secretary of State, together with the report of the Committee of the House of Representatives, on the same subject. We shall at present confine our attention of Mr. Tyson, so far, as to make a few incidental remarks on the occasion.

The memorial of the Committee may probably be regarded, as the first step on the part of our State Legislature, to awaken attention to a point, which will in the lapse of a few years, become highly interesting to the people in general. Our early history as a state, is becoming more obscure, though the lapse of time, and the loss of many valuable records, which are scattered no numerous, as they should be. Neither is this a matter of public moment, only, but the interests of many private individuals are also involved in the question. The very titles under which our landed proprietors hold their estates, rest in a great measure derived from the Colonial Records of the Government, and if they should become lost, or destroyed by some unforeseen accident, it is not difficult to imagine, that, should occasions of question arise, the titles would frequently be subjected to all the difficulties of our present disorganised Courts of Laws, and be made to undergo the infinite delays of Chancery proceedings. Even now the difficulty is frequently felt, and it does not require any great share of foresight, to perceive that it will increase with every succeeding year, if some effectual means are devised to put a stop to it. At least this is the aspect the question presents to us, though entirely unacquainted of the subject, we should say that the Royal Colonial grant in possession, would not be of any avail, without a corresponding or confirmatory acquisition of title.

The importance of the subject embraced in Mr. Tyson's report, may be readily conjectured, from what we have mentioned above. In many instances, we are informed, there are only single copies of these grants, extant, and those in manuscript, which in their present situation are exposed to Time, Fire, Water, Worms, Mould, or causes, besides, the illegibility and effacements, which will inevitably ensue in the course of time. Public documents of great interest, and some materially connected with the early settlement of the state, and valuable as historical records, are also exposed to this danger in their present situation. We cannot but hope that the attention of the memorials-ts will meet a favourable reception, as it will obviate all the above mentioned evils, by furnishing multiplied copies of every document, and thus secure them to the State, at Harrisburg. The expense of this proceeding would be but a trifle when compared with the incalculable benefits that would result from it.

But if we are disposed to embrace this subject in a wider point of view, we shall be led to more remarkable of its importance. In the place of a single state, we will take the entire union—and instead of the documentary records of one state, we will contemplate those of which may claim a place in connection with our national rights, or tend to throw light on the transactions of the whole Union. The part of connection with such a subject should be preserved with the greatest care, and guarded with the most scrupulous veneration. We say they have a claim to this regard, and it is truly as lamentable as it is apparent. Can any one of our readers tell us in what depository of our government, the original field notes of the surveys of the British regiments, that were captured by our Countrymen, in the eventful war of the Revolution, are to be found? Can any one of them, the decorations, that are the memorials of the power of the enemy, and whose capture, was the signalization of our independence? Numbers of these were taken with the troops of Burgoyne and Cornwallis, and they should have been carefully preserved and handed down to posterity, as sacred relics of the valour of our American forefathers. Yet, they are scattered in every direction over the country, and would be found in the possession of those, who are likely that a great number of these may be smouldering in decay, within the cellars of our City State House, having been deposited there by the Hessians when they left Philadelphia in 1778. Perhaps some future generation of our City Councils, may undertake the task of investigation.

Be this as it may, our inertness in every thing that concerns the memory of our ancestors, is a source of much mortification to us at times, particularly when contrasted with the very different feeling evinced by European governments on the same subject.

THEATRICALS.

Conrad Street.—Miss Ellen Tree has been playing throughout the present week with great success. The public appear to be pleased with the novelty of her style of acting and do not feel disposed to criticise minutely the merits of her performance in which that recommendation, is all that can be admired. Her real *forte* appears to be in representing scenes where the exhibition of deep pathos and feeling is required, and where her powers are exercised in parts of this description, the effect may readily be imagined. Her acting on comic parts, is also natural, but not the part of the managers of the theatre we presume, she has for the most part, been permitted to appear only in the range of characters that approach to the tragic, or what is called, genteel Comedy. Of these we may particularise, the characters of Rosalind, in "As you Like it," Lady Hardy, in the "Belle's Stratagem," and Beatrice in "Much Ado about Nothing," as evidence of her inability to sustain the scenes of parts of a more excellence altogether. We say not equal excellence, as although, the utmost, that can be said of either of these delineations, is that it is a beautiful piece of acting where the realities of nature are portrayed in the life, and color, yet still there are passages in these parts, that require the exhibition of deep natural feeling, and in such scenes she omits that very thing of importance. The text has been carefully revised and corrected throughout, and in many cases more recent statistical details have been substituted for those of the original. The additions to the first volumes are not considerable in amount, but they generally such as have been required by changes in society, or the progress of civilization of things. The book relating to America has been carefully revised by the author. The work would allow, principally by the addition of local details, the continuation of the history of the States is too unsettled to render it worth while to fill many pages with accounts of ephemeral relations, which might be entirely changed before these pages met the eye of the reader. The chapter relating to Texas, it is hoped, has been written anew, the original being extremely imperfect and incorrect; and no pains have been taken on the subject are.—Our growth in wealth, population, and resources, in trade, commerce, manufactures, and other industrial resources, so amazing, after the lapse of new years, this, says, states, is continually making such a change in the face of things, public works are concerned, planned, and executed on so great a scale and with such promptitude, that it is not at all surprising that the work should be found entirely faulted in his attempts to describe the country as it is. The *Zoological* section has alone been retained, but it has been much enlarged, chiefly from a later work of Mr. Swainson's; and some general remarks on the climate of the United States have been added. For the account of the United States, the author is indebted to Professor Rogers, of the University of Pennsylvania. A Biblical section has also been prepared by a gentleman of high literary and theological world. The editor is partially sensible of the imperfection of the other parts of this chapter, but he trusts that the difficulties of the subject will obtain for him the indulgence of the reader.

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Pennsylvania Legislature.

From our Correspondent at Harrisburg.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 10, 1837.

Every day since the adjournment, petitions have been flowing in upon the Legislature with the usual current, but they are mostly for local objects, or for links of canals or rail-roads. Several have been presented from the western part of the State, for a continuous rail-road from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, for winter transportation; and several also from the north west, in favor of a rail-road from Sunbury to Erie—These undertakings appear to be demanded, and from a report made to-day, by the committee of Ways and Means on the subject of the surplus coming to this State, it is not improbable that these great works will be undertaken by the State, or at least, a large amount of stock taken, should companies be chartered to carry them on. This report, however, suggests several methods of appropriation for that money; or, that the whole be vested in stock, and the interest paid to the school fund to remain perpetual. A bill was also reported to pay 100,000 dollars of the State debt, becoming due on the first of May next. The intelligent chairman of the committee, Mr. Johnson, informs me, that provision can be made for all the Internal Improvement committee will require, which he says, will be about one million of dollars.

This report alluded to, is liberal and statesman like, except a part which speaks of the United Bank of Pennsylvania, and is the result of a partisan cast, to come from the important committee of Ways and Means. It speaks of the Bank, as though the charter would be repealed, and that it would be impolitic to take the loan of six millions, which it is obligated to raise, by its charter, when demanded. The whole of the report will be laid upon the table. The state was introduced to proceed to the election of a State Treasurer, and immediately after the House adjourned.

There were five unsuccessful ballots for Treasurer to-day, when the convention adjourned till to-morrow.

On the last ballot, Daniel Sturgeon, late Auditor General, had 41; Joseph Buckwalter, 35; Alison H. Read, 11; George B. Espy, 16; J. Pollock, 2; R. Walsh, 2. Mr. Sturgeon will, of course, be elected to-morrow, having had the highest number of *democratic* votes to-day.

On Thursday last, Mr. Miller offered a resolution instructing our Congressmen to vote against a repeal of the duty on coal, which being a joint resolution, was laid on the table. Mr. A. R. McIlvaine offered a resolution, instructing the committee on Agriculture to enquire into the expediency of laying a duty on domestic distillations. The foregoing estimates that the present scarcity is on account of the great amount of grain distilled.

In the Senate on Friday, Mr. Sinnker offered a resolution for enquiring into the expediency of having an election in Union county, to elect a member to the convention in the place of Mr. D. Caldwell. This subject occupied the attention of the Senate, during Friday and Saturday, and the resolution finally passed 21 to 7—A bill on the subject has been reported in the House, and will pass.

Saturday. Mr. T. T. Smith, from the committee on Corporations, reported a bill to establish the Bank of Chester county, which will be duly reported. A bill was also reported to charter a company, to make a rail road from Wilkesbarre, to the waters of the Lackawanna.

Monday, the Senate was engaged with the Registry Bill, but it was postponed again to Friday next.

In the House, several important resolutions were offered and passed. Among the rest, one by Mr. Johnson, for an enquiry whether the law providing that no bill be brought against the Attorney's, for their failure in taking the loan of 1833, has ever been executed, and if not, the reason. Mr. Ely Ashmead offered one which was laid upon the table, instructing our Senators in Congress to vote for Mr. Benton's resolution to purify the Journals of the Senate, with a long preamble in praise of the valour of Gen. Jackson.

To-day election of Treasurer.

Jan. 11.—The Legislature has finally succeeded in electing a Treasurer, on the seventeenth ballot. There were but three candidates to-day, viz. Daniel Sturgeon, J. Lawrence, and Joseph Buckwalter. On the last ballot the vote stood—Daniel Sturgeon, 71; Joseph Lawrence, 39; George B. Espy, 11. Mr. Sturgeon was the late Auditor General. On the first ballot, Alison H. had 13.

GOVERNOR MARCY'S MESSAGE

Commences with general remarks on the prosperity of the country. It then refers to the services of General Jackson, as President of the United States. It suggests that the *five millions* coming to the State from the National Treasury, should be distributed to the counties, for the purpose of being loaned on undoubted securities, the interest to be applied to the support of common schools.

Of the $200,000 which may be realized annually from said loans, it recommends that about $100,000 be applied yearly to the payment of teachers, in addition to an equal amount from the present School Fund. And that the remaining $10,000 be added to render it adequate to the wants of the public, in case circumstances should render it necessary for the National government to call back the money loaned to the States. The benefits which would result from this disposition of the loan, are very forcibly pointed out.

The Governor suggests a Law, to permit individuals to receive deposits, make discounts, and keep offices of discount and deposit, for the purpose of issuing "notes or other evidences of debt to be loaned or put in circulation as money.

He recommends a repeal of the Usury Laws except as applicable to Banks and other incorporated Companies.

He calls attention to the Pilot Monopoly, and recommends that the system be altered and thrown open to competition.

The amount of tolls on the Erie and Chamberlain Canals, for the year ending 30th September last, was $1,548,535 15. That debt arising from the construction of the Erie and Chamberlain canals, is now about $7,000,000. Expenditure of several millions is about to be incurred, by the enlargement of the Erie Canal, and other works, in contemplation with others now under the supervision of the Canal Board, will create an expenditure, estimated by the Governor, at $15,000,000.

The Bank Safety Fund too exceeds by 426,365 30, the amount required by the Safety Fund Act. This excess, after deducting salaries of Commissioners, will be restored to the Banks.

The State Prisons have yielded an income to the State the last year. The school system continues to progress. Returns for 2,036 districts out of 10,397 in the State, show an aggregate of 332,167 pupils. The number of children in the common schools between 5 and 15 years of age, on the 31st of December, 1835, to which date the returns are made up, was 6231 more than the number instructed. The cost of tuition and all common school expenses in 1835, $372,020 54, besides various incidental expenses. The above sum, except a few thousand dollars applied to the payment of teachers' wages, was paid in taxes.

The message recommends that no new Banks be incorporated, and that no increase of capital be granted to existing Banks.

The Geological Survey of the State, the Militia System, and New York Indian Affairs, are urged upon the attention of the Legislature.

SYNOPSIS OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

IN SENATE, Jan. 30.

Mr. Wright presented a petition from the Marshal of the Southern District of New York, praying for the erection of suitable buildings for the holding of the Federal Courts.

Mr. Crittenden from the Committee on claims, made an unfavorable report on the petition of the Hon. John Forsyth, praying for remuneration for the loss of property.

Mr. Walker, from the committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to appropriate for a limited time the proceeds of the Public Lands, &c. without amendment, and stated that, at a proper time, he was instructed to move its indefinite postponement.

An act making a further appropriation for the suppression of Indian hostilities, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Benton, the Expunging Resolution offered by him, was made the order for Monday next.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 4, 1837.

The Chair laid before the Senate, a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting 60 copies of the Naval Register.

Also, a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, stating what had been done by him in reference to the distribution of the Revenue since the first of January.

The Senate proceeded to consider the Act for the admission of Michigan, &c., and the debate on the proposition of Mr. Morris to amend the preamble was resumed and continued by Mr. Morris and Mr. Bayard.

THURSDAY, Jan. 5, 1837.

The Chair presented a letter from the Hon. A. Dallas, resigning the seat that he had resigned his seat in the U. S. Senate.

Mr. King of Alabama, from the committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the petitions from Philadelphia on the subject of a new custom house, reported a bill making an appropriation of $100,000, for a custom house in that city, which was ordered to a second reading.

The bill for the admission of Michigan into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, &c. was read a third time, and on the question of its passage.

Mr. Calhoun rose and addressed the Senate at length in opposition to the passage of the Bill.—The bill was finally passed, after which the Senate adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 6, 1837.

The President laid before the Senate, a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of the expenditures of the United States, near the Sabine Powers.

Mr. Calhoun offered the following resolution, which was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to report to the Senate as early as practicable, the undrawn appropriations on the 1st of January, instant, and the date of the acts making such appropriations.

On motion of Mr. Clay, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Special Order, being the joint resolution rescinding the Treasury order of July 11, 1836.

On motion of Mr. Wright, the previous orders were postponed, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill "to amend the several acts" reported by the Committee on Finance, relative to the regulation of the mint.

JANUARY 7, 1837.

The Senate did not sit to-day.

MONDAY, Jan. 9, 1837.

The Chair presented the credentials of Samuel H. Prentiss, elected Senator from Vermont for the term of six years, from the 4th of March next.

Mr. Calhoun presented the credentials of W. C. Preston, elected a Senator from South Carolina, for the term of six years from the 4th of March next.

Mr. Buchanan presented the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of Philadelphia, on the subject of drawbacks, and a petition from citizens of Philadelphia, praying that the Allegheny River may be made navigable between Pittsburg and a point designated in New York.

Mr. Grundy, from the committee on the Judiciary to whom the subjects had been referred, made unfavorable reports on the memorial of the United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York, praying for a new Court House—and also on the petition of citizens of Philadelphia, praying an appropriation for a new Court House and Post Office.

Mr. Ruggles, from the special committee to whom the subject had been referred, reported a bill in addition to an act for the preservation of the useful Arts.

The bill makes provision for the restoration to the models construed by the late fire, and also of the records of the office. It enacts that certified copies of such records as the act provides for shall be evidence in Courts of Law to secure the rights of patentees. The bill makes appropriation for carrying these provisions into effect.

The report and bill were ordered to be printed: and, on motion of Mr. Benton, 1000 extra copies were ordered.

On motion of Mr. Clay, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Special Order, being the joint resolution to rescind the Treasury order of July 11, 1836—when

Mr. Wright made a short explanation of the motives by which he was actuated, when he made his speech in 1816, on the subject of the currency.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and afterwards adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

January 3.—After the presentation of petitions, Mr. Ingersoll, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy of the U. States, for the year 1837; read and twice committed.

Several private bills were reported.

Mr. Harrison, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to revive an act for granting pre-emption to settlers on public lands in certain cases; read twice and committed.

DEPOSITE BANKS.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the resolution, heretofore offered by Mr. Garland of Virginia.

The question on the different branches of the resolution was taken separately, and carried in the affirmative. The last branch was agreed to unanimously—yeas 199.

Mr. Wise moved the appointment of a Select Committee to consider and report upon that part of the President's Message which speaks of the ability and integrity with which the affairs of the Public Departments have been discharged, was taken up.

Mr. Pickens then took the floor and spoke at length in support of the resolution; after which, the House adjourned.

January 4.—The Speaker presented a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement of the monthly warrants issued on the Deposite Banks. On motion, 5000 copies were ordered to be printed.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

The House renewed the reconsideration of the resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Wise, for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the management of the Executive Departments.

The question being on the motion of Mr. D. I. Pearce to amend the resolution by submitting out it a proposition for an inquiry into *specific* charges against any department or bureau.

Mr. Robertson, of Va. who was entitled to the floor, rose and spoke at great length in opposition to the substitute, and in support of the original resolution.

January 5.—The House resumed the consideration of the resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Wise, for an inquiry by a select committee in the management of the Executive Departments—the question being on Mr. Pearce's substitute.

Mr. Robertson resumed and concluded his remarks in support of the original resolution.

Mr. Hannegan spoke at some length in vindication of the administration from some of the charges made against it by the gentlemen last up, and by the gentleman from South Carolina. (Mr. Pinckney.)

January 6.—Mr. Morris, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill for the admission of the State of Michigan into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, which was read twice and laid on the table.

Mr. Boon, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to arrest the monopoly of the Public Lands, and to limit the sales thereof to the actual settlers; read twice and committed.

A message was received from the Senate, with the Bill passed yesterday by the House, for the admission of the State of Michigan into the Union; and the bill was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

January 7.—The House proceeded to the orders of the day.

Mr. Thomas asked the House to take up the Senate bill for the admission of Michigan into the Union, in order to assign a day for its consideration: agreed to.

The bill was taken up and read twice.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, the bill was then postponed to Tuesday next.

The House then proceeded to consider some private bills, after which they adjourned.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

January 9.—The States were called for Petitions.

Mr. Adams rose and said—I have a petition from 150 women, the wives and daughters of my constituents, praying the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia.

A violent debate ensued on the subject, which was finally closed by a motion to lay the petition on the table.

The question being taken, it was decided in the affirmative, yeas 120, nays 69.

The memorial therefore lies over till next Monday.

Mr. Adams presented another memorial on the same subject.

Mr. Adams proceeded to read the petition.

Several members called Mr. Adams to order.

Mr. Chambers, of Ky. made a point of order; that the House first take up the bill for the relief of Houssa, confined to "a brief statement of the contents of a memorial."

The Chair decided that Mr. Adams could not read the memorial, and must confine himself to "a brief state of its contents."

Mr. Adams appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Adams said he would withdraw the appeal, if the House would suffer him to complete the memorial. There were but a few more lines and those he wished the House to hear.

He proceeded to read the "two lines;" whereupon the members express their determination to prevent the same memorial every year until its prayer shall be complied with.

Tremendous cries of "order" accompanied and followed Mr. Adams.

The Speaker peremptorily ordered Mr. A. to take his seat.

Mr. Adams, continued his remarks, which were however entirely inaudible, in consequence of the loud cries of "order," "order," from every part of the House.

The Speaker, again ordered the gentleman to sit down. Mr. Adams, having brought his "brief statement" to a conclusion, took his seat, at the same time saying, "I withdraw the appeal."

Mr. Mann, of N. Y. moved the previous question, which was ordered to be put. The main question, "shall the petition be received?" was put and decided in the affirmative, yeas 137, nays 75. So the petition was received.

Mr. Hayden moved to lay the petition on the table, which motion was agreed to, yeas 151, nays 50.

MESSAGE OF GOV. POLK OF DELAWARE.

We are indebted to the politeness of the Delaware for an extra, containing an abstract of Governor Polk's Message to the Legislature. He recommends the passage of a law to fix a uniform standard of weights and measures through the State.

It recommends that the passage of the act entitled "An act to protect the citizens of free negroes or mulattoes into this State, and for other purposes," be rigidly enforced by the Court House and Police officers charged with the performance of this duty.

It mentions that Mr. Henry Gale has laid claim to the Pea Patch Island, in the river Delaware, founded a verdict in his favour, in the Circuit Court for the District of New Jersey—on the ground that he derives the title from that State. The Island was ceded by the State to the United States in 1813, and the message suggests the propriety of requesting of the United States a retrocession of the Pea Patch Island, so that the State, being possessed of the whole legal title, may thus be placed in an attitude to assert the same, before the proper tribunals of the country.

The message concludes by stating, that no arrangement has yet been made to supply the vacancy of Mr. Clayton in the Senate, and that consequently the duty of so doing devolves upon the Legislature. Allusion is also made to the charter of the Washington Whaling Company.

More Warnings.—On the night of Saturday, the 27th ult. a notorious drunkard was found to death on the banks of the Delaware, in Lower Penna. New Jersey, by the side of a tavern, on night (Sunday) a worthy compeer and fellow-citizen gave up his life, a victim to sacrifice to the shrine of this modern Moloch. It has not been ascertained whether the former died from exposure in the midst of plenty, and left by his parents to the judgment of an unfeeling companion, after eight years of misery, beggary, and disgrace, or whether, at last died drunk, upon a wheelbarrow, in the midst of a hard, unattended, and unmourned. And still further to add to this dark and painful catalogue, but a few weeks since, another was found committed to the grave, the mortal remains of whom the nature seems to have formed and placed for the purpose of exemplifying, in its strongest colors the power of this curse of the human kind. Born in affluence, he enjoyed in youth all its advantages. A naturally fine mind, he received at the institution which the best schools and colleges of the country could bestow. He fell, well proportioned, manly figure, and handsome countenance, were added an independent and prepossessing deportment. And yet, with all these advantages, he forsook home, friends, fortune, character, health, intellect, and life itself.—*Salem Comm.*

Among the important Congressional documents contained in the volume for which we have been indebted to the politeness of Mr. McKim, we find the Report of Captain Henry M. Shreve, Superintendent of the great work of clearing the Red River. This Report, or document is one of great interest, as furnishing the most correct idea of the extent of the undertaking and of the judiciousness of the course pursued by the Superintendent. The whole amount expended thus far upon the work under the direction of Captain Shreve, is stated to have been $300,000. There have been removed one hundred and fifty-one miles of the raft, and there remains only a distance of nine miles to complete the work, and to open permanently, and at all seasons of the year, a safe and direct navigation from the mouth of Red River to Natchitoches, a distance of 300 miles. When the location of the Rail and the nature of the country are considered, preventing the men from working during the warmer months, as they must be constantly in the water, and surrounded by decayed vegetable matter, the progress made is highly favorable to their energies and skill. Superintendent thinks that the work will be finished in April next.

Pennsylvania's Quota of the Surplus Revenue.—We learn that the first quarterly instalment of Pennsylvania's portion of the surplus revenue, amounting to nearly a million of dollars, having been received from the Secretary of the National Treasury, has been deposited in the Bank of Pennsylvania, and Girard Bank, where it will continue until the Legislature has decided as to its final disposal.

Theatre, Chestnut Street.

Miss Ellen Tree's Benefit.

Saturday Evening, January 14,

Will be performed Shakspeare's play of

MERCHANT OF VENICE.

PORTIA, by Miss ELLEN TREE

To conclude with the farce of

Perfection; or, the Maid of Munster.

KATE O'DONOGHUE, by Miss ELLEN TREE

American Waltham Theatre.

Saturday evening, January 14,

THE SHADOW,

Or, THE FATAL WARNING.

After which the farce of

The Budget of Blunders.

To conclude with

LOUISA OF TOULOUSA,

Or, The Fatal Snow Storm.

RECEIPTS BY MAIL.

Jan. 7, received from Henry M. Charles H. Seaford, $ 00 D. B. Graham, mrs. 4 75
J. W. Mathiston, 2 00 J. W. Mathiston, 2 00
John J. Woodward, 2 00 G. J. Fiseley, 5 00
P. J. Bickely, 2 00 John J. Vansant, 2 00
E. Price, 2 00 John D. Dye, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00 Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
John Rogers, Esq. 2 00 James R. Young, 12 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00 A. Van Dusen, 2 00
J. L. Campbell, Esq. 2 00 Samuel Wetherill, 2 00
J. L. Campbell, Esq. 2 00 Samuel W. Lewis, Esq. 2 00
John Hamilton, 2 00 Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Alex Hamel, Esq. 2 00 Wm. Emil, Esq. 5 00
James Kenny, Esq. 2 00 S. Shewen, Esq. 2 00
D. H. Turner, Esq. 2 00 William Teal, Esq. 2 00
R. Reed, Esq. 1 00
Thomas J. Jas, 1 st. 2 50
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Daniel B. Cheyney, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
W. Tagart, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
John W. Fraser, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
J. W. Fraser, Esq. 2 00
Jas. A. Peterson, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Wm. C. Carmichael, 10 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Lewis K. Hood, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
R. M. Richmond, 4 50
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Daniel D. Wirth, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
H. Ingham, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Dudley P. Fraser, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
W. D. Gilmore, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Hollow Morrison, esq. 2 00
Jas. McLallen, Esq. 10 00
D. B. Graham, mrs. 4 75
J. W. Mathiston, 2 00
G. J. Fiseley, 5 00
John D. Dye, 2 00
James R. Young, 12 00
A. Van Dusen, 2 00
Samuel W. Lewis, Esq. 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Wm. Emil, Esq. 5 00
S. Shewen, Esq. 2 00
William Teal, Esq. 2 00
R. Reed, Esq. 1 00
Wm. A. Fraser, 60 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2 00
Wm. Hamilton, 2

THE OLIO

"Variety's the spice of Life,
That gives it all its flavour."

Parody.—An amusing one was made last week by the United Times, upon a single line:—

"Large acres from little toe-corns grow."

The following is genuine:—*Subtraction.*—At a crowded lecture, the other evening, a young ladies sitting at the door of the church was solicited by an honest Hibernian, who was in attendance on the occasion, to subscribe. Miss, I should be to give you a sate, but the empty ones are all full.'

Sensible Query.—When one of the English naval commanders was at Canton, the officers of his frigate gave a ball. Whilst they were dancing, a Chinese, who had quietly looked on during the operations, softly said to one of the company: "Why don't you let some women dance for you?"

Try it.—A grocer wishing to be a little said in regard to a sign, caused two letters, T. T. to be painted on his shutter, the one green and the other red. Not long after, seeing a person observing it, inquired what it meant. "Why you green," said the trader, "it's green for old black tea."

A country gentleman was boasting of having been educated at two colleges. "I'on remind me," said an aged divine, "of a calf that suckled two cows." "What was you expecting?" said a third person, "why, sir," replied the old gentleman, very gravely, "the consequence was that he was a very cross calf."

Once, whilst at Plymouth, a very juvenile midshipman, flourishing his dirk, swaggered into the theatre. "My dear Sir," said Liston to the door-keeper, "why don't you attend to the announcement at the bottom of your bills,—*Children in arms not admitted!*"

Genius vs. Lotter.—"Oh what use is all your studying and your books?" said an honest Farmer to an ingenious artist. "They don't make the corn grow, nor produce vegetables for market. But they does more good with the plough in one month, than you can do with your books and papers in one year."

"What good does your son use?" said the artist quietly.

"Why he use ——'s plough, to be sure. He can do nothing with any other. By using this plough, we save half the labor, and raise three times as much as we did with the old wooden concern."

The artist, quietly again turned over one of his sheets, and, shewed the farmer a drawing of the finished plough, saying, "I am the inventor of your favorite plough, and my name is ——."

The astonished farmer shook the artist heartily by the hand, and invited him to call at the farm house and make it his home as long as he liked.

At Middleton we got fresh horses at a respectable looking house where to our surprise, the horses were led out of the shop door to be put to. "How many miles to Cork?" we asked a man who was waiting to harness them. "Why, sir, replied he, "it was eleven miles last year, but as the turnpikes, owing to a message your coach had from one of the Judges, in spring last, plan round the road." "And what's the meaning of that?" said we. "Oh, by dad, I don't know at all your honor, added our informant, "unless its doing away wid every thing that's auld and Irish: they took away the parliament, had luck to them as for the United, and they're for carrying off all our auld Irish miles: and laving us nothing but their short English ones.—*Later Times.*

How to Astonish a Custom House Officer.—We learn from a French paper that an amusing adventure lately occurred at Boulogne. A lady stepped out of a Packet Boat which had just arrived at the wharf, with a small box under her arm. Some appearance of fur, which appeared through a crevice in the box, attracted the attention of a vigilant Custom House Officer, who immediately suspected that some smuggling trick was about being played. He stopped the lady, and rudely insisted on examining the box. It was delivered to him with apparent reluctance. But he had no sooner put his hand on the cover than a spring off, and a hideous figure about three feet high, with a most diabolical cast of countenance, started out of the box. It was one of those clockwork toys called magicians, manufactured for the amusement of children, when by touch in an elastic wire, an object is made to start from the box, on removing the cover.—This, unfortunately for the officer, happened to be of an unusual size—and he was so frightened at the unexpected and horrid spectacle, that uttering one shriek he dropped the object of his fears, and fled in dismay from the quay!—*Boat. Jour.*

Rough Turn.—An English paper gives a story of a cabriolet admiral running foul with the late ministry. On one occasion, relating the history of a gale which encountered while conveying a squadron of marines to Pondicherry, and which had proved fatal to one of the ships under his charge. "But the most extraordinary part of the whole," said he—"is, the vessel having been laden with hosiery, we observed all the purposes next morning wearing a red night cap. One of the officers, determined not to be out done, replied, "that that was by no means remarkable, for a vessel he was in, on a similar occasion, lost her main-topsail, and that next morning they saw a white scudding along with the canvass tied round its neck by way of a cravat."

A small Soul.—A lisped who has grown to the stature of a man, was addressed in the following manner by a gentleman who had been transacting some business with him.

"You claim to be a human being! Why, sir, if you have a soul, ten thousand of its size would have room in the shell of a mustard seed than a frog in the Pacific ocean. Nay, more, ten thousand souls like yours might cohere on the point of a cambric needle, and live for fifty years, increasing, and should they then have a cord way, the vanquished party would have mountains and valleys to retreat to, ten days' journey. Why man, neighbor Grope would as much larger than yours as a saw mill log is larger than the thread of a spider's web, and can hardly be discerned by the aid of a microscope that magnifies a million of times!"

A single bottle of Wine.—Many years, a Mr. Halket, a Scotch gentleman but occasional passenger, was grammar-schoolmaster at St. Andrews. During one of lord Kinnaird's visits the chancellor visits to the university. Mr. Halket received a party of the principal men of it with his lordship at their head. His lordship offered many excuses for not going, none of which Mr. Halket would receive, and at length he fairly told him, as they were on the best terms, that he knew his circumstances would not admit of such an entertainment as his hospitable disposition would induce him to give; but that he would be of the party, provided they were not allowed to drink more than one bottle of wine among them. This was agreed to, after much discussion, being the only terms on which Mr. Halket could obtain his lordship's attendance. The guests came, and dinner was got over, when Mr. Halket produced a bottle of the one bottle and no more. The servants soon finding the conversation lasted much longer than in came Jenny and in came Kirsty, bearing between them one bottle to be sure, but that long enough for the Senatus academicus, with the chancellor at their head—in earlier. Another bottle followed in quick time to which bleachers keep sulphured acid; containing about ten gallons of excellent old port!

Age of European Monarchs.—The following a scale to be the ages of the different reigning Sovereigns in Europe. The King of England, 71 years. The King of Sweden, 67 years. The Pope, 71 years. The King of Denmark, 66 years. The King of Prussia, 65 years. The King of the French, 64 years. The King of Holland, 59 years. The King of Wirtemberg, 55 years. The Sultan of Turkey, 51 years. The King of Belgium, 46 years. The Emperor of Austria, 42 years. The Emperor of Russia, 40 years.—The King of Bavaria, 39 years. The King of Sardinia, 38 years. The King of Naples, 29 years. The King of Greece, 21 years. The Queen of Portugal, 17 years. The Queen of Spain, 6 years.

Spanish Women.—The intellectual culture of the dark eyed beauties of Spain is almost entirely neglected. The science of their education is to enable them to attract the notice and observation of the other sex and in this art they are surprising adepts. As Lord Byron remarks,

"In the spin of a rapsode eye,"

they are quite surrounded. Hosaa gives the following example of their literary tastes in the court and Camp of Don Carlos.

"I was tempted in secret to accuse the young lady of having been so far overcome of the fatal as to run away with a volume of "Don Quixotte," which I had left on a table in the sitting-room. On making a search, it was not to be found, and the *senorites* stoutly denied having touched it, referring me at the same time to their library for proof. Certain, on looking over the collection, I forgave them on finding the "Don Quixotte" for Vidas de Santos and the "Mysterious Conception of the Virgin," were the only books they had in the house."

SCIENTIFIC.

AUTOMATIC CHESS-PLAYER.

In all the dissertations on Mechanism and Automata, the principal place is given to the Automatic Chess-Player, as the most admirable and, at the same time, the most mysterious and inexplicable display of mechanical skill, that can well imagined. Twice, it is said, has curious book (as rare now as curious) on chess, given an account of the automaton's performances. It observes, that the utmost sagacity of the greatest mechanists and mathematicians of Europe was employed in vain to discover the secret of its construction. A wooded image of the human form was seated on a table on which was placed a chess board and men. A set of wheels being wound up, the image, resting its left arm on the left hand, with its right played an excellent game with an adversary. It is little skilled in the science, and who hesitated not to encounter him. A person accustomed in any degree to the game satisfied himself of the difficulty of directing blind machinery to the infinitely various and intricate combinations of the game of chess. In the case of which we now speak, the master, at times, encountered a move which he could not set the automaton in motion by a touch; but how the mere touch could set in motion a machine into the proper and desired motion, was an inexplicable enigma. On that occasion, however, it appears that Mr. Maelzel, who lectures on the same subject, had been greatly misled in their conjectures, and he (it was reported by a Professor at Berlin) who formed the resolution to play a game of chess with the automaton, if necessary, to the clearing up of the mystery—to detect the true secret of this piece of mechanism. He was, however, unsuccessful in attention to all the motions of the machine and its master, he at length discovered the whole mystery was nothing more than the operation of a common penetrating human intellect, the nature of which designs, priests, &c. of any kind may be copied, in any proportions, but it will never, in direct sight, be a well instructed boy, artfully concealed within the apparatus. The hands of the figure, however, are not at the master's exhibition; for other another pupil, equally well instructed, is always to be found; or else the public curiosity, which had been gratified once and had ceased to be excited.

The automatic chess-player was but one instance, among thousands, of the facility with which the ingenuity of man can delude, when powers, may be directed to excite the wonder of the ignorant. Of this the Fantoccini—and the exhibitions of the noted Falconi, who figured in the reign of Louis XIV. are also a most incomprehensible exploits of this curious species the putting a piece of wood some inches in diameter through the body of a half an inch diameter. To a superficial observer this would appear impossible, but a well instructed boy, artfully concealed within the apparatus. The hands of the figure, however, are not at the master's exhibition; for other another pupil, equally well instructed, is always to be found; or else the public curiosity, which had been gratified once and had ceased to be excited.

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ANTIQUITIES AND CURIOSITIES.—The collection of books is perhaps feel interested in the subjoined statements of the prices paid within the last few years for curious and rare specimens of Sanscrit literature. It contains forty-three Mongolian and Thibetan works, collected at Pekin; altogether forming the finest collection of Oriental works in the world. Besides that at St. Petersburgh, the most extensive Oriental other libraries at Archangel, Wladimir, Wologda, and eighteen other towns of Russia also—already contain 10,000 volumes. In the year 1820, 400,000 volumes in Sanscrit were imported into Russia. The number of original works which issued from the Russian press in the year 1824 of translations there were 124. The total amount of establishments for instruction in 1825, 440 of which 200 were founded since the Emperor Nicholas ascended the throne.

Chinese Lantern Feast.—This celebrated feast is held on the fifteenth day of the first month, and is so called from the almost innumerable lanterns hung out of the houses and shops, which it is said are computed of two hundred millions. On this day the Emperor issued all prices, of which some cost near two thousand ounces. Many of the lanterns represented what every day, out of their table, dress, or equipage to appear the more magnificent at these feast. The lanterns are painted with history, sculpture, painting, japanning, and sometimes both of the two last are more magnificent at less than thirty feet in diameter, they represent halls and chambers, with the furniture of such machines would make handsome houses; in fact, the Chinese put their whole wit and art to be contrived for the amusement of children, when by touch in an elastic wire, an object is made to start from the box, on removing the cover.—This, unfortunately for the officer, happened to be of an unusual size—and he was so frightened at the unexpected and horrid spectacle, that uttering one shriek he dropped the object of his fears, and fled in dismay from the quay!—*Boat. Jour.*

ROSA.

A lovely moon gleamed over the terraces, the battlement, the bellfires, and the bay of Naples the scene is a summer evening in the early part of the seventeenth century. Beneath the low window of a little house, which, peeping from the orange vines, sate surrounded by myrtle trees in full bloom, near the watching hour of midnight, in the shadow of the building stood a but youth eighteen, attired in the wild and fanciful garb of the Corsair of the time; upon his left arm hung his forehead, and a guitar in his hand, with which he accompanied a soft voice with the stanzas of a serenade. When the music died away, the youthful singer looked anxiously towards the window before which he was standing.

"It taken yet!" he said, in tones of disappointment. Never hath fair dame before treated me such scurvy guise. I will but catch the wave of a handkerchief, I should be contented.

As he thus soliloquized, a light appeared, the casement opened, and a white hand beckoned the serenader to approach. He sprang towards the ardent youth sprang through the window and stood within the chamber.

"Nina!" he cried, "Nina, cold and coy, hast thou changed? Will thou now confess thou love me?"

The warm-hearted girl confessed her admiration in the wind, as she replied softly and tenderly:

"Yes, Ferdinando, more *mio*; I love thee—I love thee!"

"And this ring,"—asked the youth; withdrawing one from the fair hand of Nina, "shall I wear it as the pledge of thy affection?"

"It is enough!" said the youth, drawing the unpassioned girl.

"It is enough!" said the youth, drawing him to his youthful bosom. "Yet, even in the midst of my happiness, I must leave thee."

"Leave me!"

"Yes, my love. The world is before me—I have fame yet to win!" As he said this, his dark eyes sparkled with mysterious fire, and the chords of his heart responded to the words hung upon his shoulders.

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